

## Third Sunday of Advent

### Prelude

## Welcome to Our Redeemer Lutheran Church

### 556 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

LSB 556 sts. 1–5



1 Dear Chris-tians, one and all, re - joice, With ex - ul - ta - tion  
2 Fast bound in Sa - tan's chains I lay; Death brood-ed dark - ly  
3 My own good works all came to naught, No grace or mer - it  
4 But God had seen my wretch-ed state Be - fore the world's foun -  
5 God said to His be - lov - ed Son: "It's time to have com -



spring-ing, And with u - nit - ed heart and voice And ho - ly  
o'er me. Sin was my tor - ment night and day; In sin my  
gain - ing; Free will a - gainst God's judg - ment fought, Dead to all  
da - tion, And mind - ful of His mer - cies great, He planned for  
pas - sion. Then go, bright jew - el of My crown, And bring to



rap - ture sing - ing, Pro - claim the won - ders God has done, How  
moth-er bore me. But dai - ly deep - er still I fell; My  
good re - main - ing. My fears in - creased till sheer de - spair Left  
my sal - va - tion. He turned to me a fa - ther's heart; He  
all sal - va - tion. From sin and sor - row set them free; Slay



His right arm the vic - t'ry won. What price our ran - som cost Him!  
life be - came a liv - ing hell, So firm - ly sin pos - sessed me.  
on - ly death to be my share; The pangs of hell I suf - fered.  
did not choose the eas - y part But gave His dear - est trea - sure.  
bit - ter death for them that they May live with You for - ev - er."

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt.

Tune: Etlich Cristlich lider, 1524, Wittenberg

Text and tune: Public domain

### Invocation

**P** In the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✠}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

### Introit

**P** Rejoice in the Lord always;  
again I will say, Rejoice.

**C** Blessèd is he whose help is the God of Jacob,  
whose hope is in the LORD his God,

**P** who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,  
who keeps faith forever;

**C** who executes justice for the oppressed,  
who gives food to the hungry.

**P** The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.  
The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

**C** **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.**

**P** Rejoice in the Lord always;  
again I will say, Rejoice.

### Exhortation

LSB 151

**P** If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

**C** **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us  
from all unrighteousness.**

### Confession of Sins

LSB 151

**P** Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

**C** **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. 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 justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your  
Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may  
delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

### Absolution

LSB 151

**P** Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all  
your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you  
all your sins in the name of the Father and of the  $\text{✝}$  Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**C** Amen.

### Kyrie

LSB 152

**A** In peace let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**A** For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**A** 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.



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

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



**C** Lord, have mer - cy.

**A** Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



**C** A - men.

### Salutation and Collect of the Day

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** And also with you.

**P** Let us pray.

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.

**C** Amen.

### Old Testament Reading

Zephaniah 3:14–20

<sup>14</sup>Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;  
shout, O Israel!

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

<sup>15</sup>The LORD has taken away the judgments against you;  
he has cleared away your enemies.

The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;  
you shall never again fear evil.

<sup>16</sup>On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:  
“Fear not, O Zion;

let not your hands grow weak.

<sup>17</sup>The LORD your God is in your midst,  
a mighty one who will save;

he will rejoice over you with gladness;  
he will quiet you by his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing.

<sup>18</sup>I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival,  
so that you will no longer suffer reproach.

<sup>19</sup>Behold, at that time I will deal  
with all your oppressors.

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 in,  
at the time when I gather you together;  
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.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Epistle

Philippians 4:4–7

<sup>4</sup>Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. <sup>5</sup>Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; <sup>6</sup>do not be anxious 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.

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

**C** Thanks be to God.

## Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156

**C** Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the  
words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

## Holy Gospel

Luke 7:18–28

**P** The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the seventh chapter.

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

<sup>18</sup>The disciples of John reported all these things to him. And John, <sup>19</sup>calling two of his disciples to him, sent them to the Lord, saying, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” <sup>20</sup>And when the men had come to him, they said, “John the Baptist has sent us to you, saying, ‘Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?’” <sup>21</sup>In that hour he healed many people of diseases and plagues and evil spirits, and on many who were blind he bestowed sight. <sup>22</sup>And he answered them, “Go and tell John what you have seen and heard: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, the dead are raised up, the poor have good news preached to them. <sup>23</sup>And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

<sup>24</sup>When John’s messengers had gone, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? <sup>25</sup>What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who are dressed in splendid clothing and live in luxury are in kings’ courts. <sup>26</sup>What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. <sup>27</sup>This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,  
who will prepare your way before you.”

<sup>28</sup>I tell you, among those born of women none is greater than John. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of God is greater than he.”

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

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

## 556 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

LSB 556 sts. 6–10



6 The Son o - beyed His Fa - ther's will, Was born of vir - gin  
7 To me He said: "Stay close to Me, I am your rock and  
8 "Though he will shed My pre - cious blood, Me of My life be -  
9 "Now to My Fa - ther I de - part, From earth to heav'n as -  
10 "What I on earth have done and taught Guide all your life and



moth - er; And God's good plea - sure to ful - fill, He came to  
cas - tle. Your ran - som I My - self will be; For you I  
reav - ing, All this I suf - fer for your good; Be stead - fast  
cend - ing, And, heav'n - ly wis - dom to im - part, The Ho - ly  
teach - ing; So shall the king - dom's work be wrought And hon - ored



be my broth - er. His roy - al pow'r dis - guised He bore; A  
strive and wres - tle. For I am yours, and you are Mine, And  
and be - liev - ing. Life will from death the vic - t'ry win; My  
Spir - it send - ing; In trou - ble He will com - fort you And  
in your preach - ing. But watch lest foes with base al - loy The



ser - vant's form, like mine, He wore To lead the dev - il cap - tive.  
where I am you may re - main; The foe shall not di - vide us.  
in - no - cence shall bear your sin, And you are blest for - ev - er.  
teach you al - ways to be true And in - to truth shall guide you.  
heav'n - ly trea - sure should de - stroy; This fi - nal word I leave you.”

Text: Martin Luther, 1483–1546; tr. Richard Massie, 1800–87, alt.

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Text and tune: Public domain

## Sermon

### Nicene Creed

**C** I believe in one God,  
the Father Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth  
and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ,  
the only-begotten Son of God,  
begotten of His Father before all worlds,  
God of God, Light of Light,

very God of very God,  
 begotten, not made,  
 being of one substance with the Father,  
 by whom all things were made;  
 who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven  
 and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary  
 and was made man;  
 and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.  
 He suffered and was buried.  
 And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures  
 and ascended into heaven  
 and sits at the right hand of the Father.  
 And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,  
 whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,  
 the Lord and giver of life,  
 who proceeds from the Father and the Son,  
 who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,  
 who spoke by the prophets.  
 And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,  
 I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,  
 and I look for the resurrection of the dead  
 and the life  $\dagger$  of the world to come. Amen.

### Offering - Let us thank the Lord with the Offering

#### Offertory

LSB 159

What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to  
 me? I will of-fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv-ing and will  
 call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-  
 va-tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my  
 vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the  
 courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je-ru-sa-lem.

## Prayer of the Church

**P** In peace, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For pastors and church workers, that God would send them as messengers before the face of Jesus to prepare His way, making known His saving name; and that Christ would open the ears of all who hear to rejoice, repent and firmly believe, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For those who suffer for the name of Jesus, that our heavenly Father, who rescues the daughter of Zion, would look on them with compassion, giving them wisdom when they are pressured to compromise, providing for them when they suffer loss, granting courage when they are afraid, and delivering them from all evil, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For our homes, that God would provide companionship for those who are alone, strengthen the bonds of marriage, and equip parents to raise their children in love and faith; and that, for Jesus' sake, our homes would be places of joy, reasonableness, peace and prayer, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For our republic in its need, that abandoning all anxiety, we would instead, by prayer and thanksgiving, make our requests known to God; for the authorities and those newly elected, that God would give wisdom, health and success to those who govern us; and for peace in our time, even as we rest confident in the peace of Christ, which passes all understanding, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** For the anxious, that the God of all joy would forgive their doubts, reveal the causes of their doubts, and guard their hearts and minds in Christ Jesus, through whom all prayers are heard, let us pray to the Lord:

**C** **Lord, have mercy.**

**P** Hear us, heavenly Father, for the sake of Christ Jesus, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** **Amen.**

## Preface

LSB 160

**P** The Lord be with you.

**C** **And also with you.**

**P** Lift up your hearts.

**C** **We lift them to the Lord.**

**P** Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**C** **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

## Proper Preface (Full)

**P** It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

## Sanctus

LSB 161

**C** Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:  
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo - ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -  
san-na. 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.

## Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

**P** Blessed are You, Lord of heaven and earth, for You have had mercy on those whom You created and sent Your only-begotten Son into our flesh to bear our sin and be our Savior. With repentant joy we receive the salvation accomplished for us by the all-availing sacrifice of His body and His blood on the cross.

Gathered in the name and the remembrance of Jesus, we beg You, O Lord, to forgive, renew, and strengthen us with Your Word and Spirit. Grant us faithfully to eat His body and drink His blood as He bids us do in His own testament. Gather us together, we pray, from the ends of the earth to celebrate with all the faithful the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom, which has no end. Graciously receive our prayers; deliver and preserve us. To You alone, O Father, be all glory, honor, and worship, with the Son and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Lord's Prayer

**C** 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.

### The Words of Our Lord

**P** Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My  $\text{✠}$  body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My  $\text{✠}$  blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

### Proclamation of Christ

**P** As often as we eat this bread and drink this cup, we proclaim the Lord’s death until He comes.

**C** Amen. Come, Lord Jesus.

### Pax Domini

LSB 163

**P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**C** Amen.

### Agnus Dei

LSB 163

**C** 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.

### Organ Music during the Distribution

#### The Dismissal

**P** The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen and preserve you in body and soul to life everlasting. Depart  $\text{✠}$  in peace.

**C** Amen.

## Thank the Lord

LSB 164



**C** Thank the Lord and sing His praise; tell ev-'ry-one what He has done.



Let all who seek the Lord re - jice and proud-ly bear His name.



He re-calls His prom-is - es and leads His peo-ple forth in joy



with shouts of thanks-giv-ing. Al-le - lu - ia, al-le - lu - ia.

## Post-Communion Collect

**A** Let us pray.

We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**C** Amen.

## Benediction

LSB 166

**P** The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.

The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.

**C** Amen.

## 643 Sent Forth by God's Blessing

LSB 643



1 Sent forth by God's bless-ing, Our true faith con - fess-ing,  
2 With praise and thanks - giv - ing To God ev - er - liv - ing,



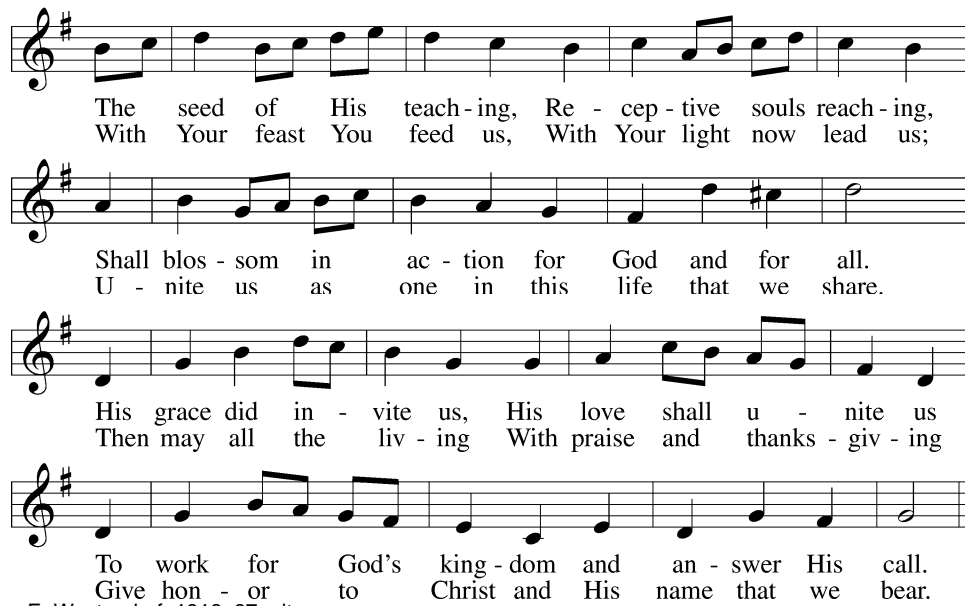
The peo - ple of God from His dwell - ing take leave.  
The tasks of our ev - 'ry - day life we will face.



The Sup - per is end - ed. O now be ex - tend - ed  
Our faith ev - er shar - ing, In love ev - er car - ing,



The fruits of this ser - vice in all who be - lieve.  
Em - brac - ing His chil - dren of each tribe and race.



The seed of His teach-ing, Re-cep-tive souls reach-ing,  
 With Your feast You feed us, With Your light now lead us;  
 Shall blos-som in ac-tion for God and for all.  
 U-nite us as one in this life that we share.  
 His grace did in-vite us, His love shall u-nite us  
 Then may all the liv-ing With praise and thanks-giv-ing  
 To work for God's king-dom and an-swer His call.  
 Give hon-or to Christ and His name that we bear.

Text: Omer E. Westendorf, 1916–97, alt.

Tune: Welsh

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## Announcements

## Postlude

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