



Advent Midweek 3
December 16, 2020

THEME OF THE DAY

"Glory to God to the *lowest*." Although that's not what the angels sang, that's what Micah says. Our response? "Come adore on bended knee, Christ the Lord the newborn King."

*INVOCATION

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP (FROM SELECTED VERSES IN MICAH 4:1-5)

P It shall come to pass, in the latter days that the mountain of the house of the LORD will be established as the highest of the mountains
C **Then many nations will say—**
P "Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD, to the house of the God of Jacob."
C **"That he may teach us his ways and that we may walk in his paths."**
P They shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruning hooks
C **Nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore.**
P God's fierce judgment—
C **Gives way to final grace!**

HYMN

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

LSB 341, vs. 1

1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates! Be - hold, the
King of glo - ry waits. The King of kings is draw - ing
near; The Sav - ior of the world is here. Life and sal -
va - tion He doth bring; There - fore re - joice and glad - ly sing.
To God the Fa - ther raise Your joy - ful songs of praise.

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***CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION**

P Lord God, merciful Father, pour out your Holy Spirit and deliver us from all evil. Open our eyes so we see our sin and selfishness. Inspire our repentance so we return to you.

C Amen.

P Returning to our gracious Lord, let us confess our sins.

Silence for reflection and confession

P Merciful Father,

C We confess that we do not live according to your Word and instead, we follow gossip and slander, pride and pretense. We have become smug and self-righteous. Bring us out of our sin and clothe us with the garments of salvation, won for us through Jesus Christ. Amen.

P Our God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love! Out of that love he sent Jesus to shed his blood for us. By faith we stand forgiven, restored and empowered to live new lives. Therefore, we proclaim to each other—

C Christ redeems you and restores you. Christ loves you and forgives you!

P God's fierce judgment—

C Gives way to final grace!

***HYMN**

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates

LSB 341, st. 2

2 A righ - teous Help - er comes to thee; His char - iot
 is hu - mil - i - ty, His king - ly crown is ho - li -
 ness, His scep - ter, pit - y in dis - tress. The end of
 all our woe He brings; There - fore the earth is glad and sings.
 To Christ the Sav - ior raise Your grate - ful hymns of praise.

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***COLLECT**

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.**THE READINGS ARE ABOUT HUMILITY****OLD TESTAMENT READING***Micah 6:1–8*¹Hear what the LORD says:

Arise, plead your case before the mountains,
 and let the hills hear your voice.

²Hear, you mountains, the indictment of the LORD,
 and you enduring foundations of the earth,
 for the LORD has an indictment against his people,
 and he will contend with Israel.

³“O my people, what have I done to you?”

How have I wearied you? Answer me!

⁴For I brought you up from the land of Egypt
and redeemed you from the house of slavery,
and I sent before you Moses,
Aaron, and Miriam.

⁵O my people, remember what Balak king of Moab devised,
and what Balaam the son of Beor answered him,
and what happened from Shittim to Gilgal,
that you may know the saving acts of the LORD."

⁶"With what shall I come before the LORD,
and bow myself before God on high?
Shall I come before him with burnt offerings,
with calves a year old?

⁷Will the LORD be pleased with thousands of rams,
with ten thousands of rivers of oil?
Shall I give my firstborn for my transgression,
the fruit of my body for the sin of my soul?"

⁸He has told you, O man, what is good;
and what does the LORD require of you
but to do justice, and to love kindness,
and to walk humbly with your God?

EPISTLE READING

Philippians 2:5–11

⁵Have this mind among yourselves, which is yours in Christ Jesus, ⁶who, though he was in the form of God, did not count equality with God a thing to be grasped, ⁷but made himself nothing, taking the form of a servant, being born in the likeness of men. ⁸And being found in human form, he humbled himself by becoming obedient to the point of death, even death on a cross. ⁹Therefore God has highly exalted him and bestowed on him the name that is above every name, ¹⁰so that at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, in heaven and on earth and under the earth, ¹¹and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father.

***GOSPEL READING**

John 1:1–14

¹In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. ²He was in the beginning with God. ³All things were made through him, and without him was not any thing made that was made. ⁴In him was life, and the life was the light of men. ⁵The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

⁶There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. ⁸He was not the light, but came to bear witness about the light.

⁹The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world. ¹⁰He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. ¹¹He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him. ¹²But to all who did receive him, who believed in his name, he gave the right to

become children of God,¹³ who were born, not of blood nor of the will of the flesh nor of the will of man, but of God.

¹⁴And the Word became flesh and dwelt among us, and we have seen his glory, glory as of the only Son from the Father, full of grace and truth.

*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.**

SERMON

Glory to God to the "lowest"

HYMN

Angels We have Heard on High

LSB 368, vs. 1, 3



1 An - gels we have heard on high, Sweet - ly sing - ing o'er the plains,
3 Come to Beth - le - hem and see Him whose birth the an - gels sing;



And the moun - tains in re - ply, Ech - o - ing their joy - ous strains.
Come, a - dore on bend - ed knee Christ the Lord, the new - born King.

Refrain



Glo - - - - - ri - a



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OFFERING

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*PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P We see our mighty God in the most unlikely places—a child in a stable, a Man upon a cross, the Risen One bursting forth from an empty tomb. May God hear our prayers, because of Christ Jesus.

A brief silence

P Creator God, stretch out your hand in healing and protection over all that you have made. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Just God, grant your Spirit to the nations and send your light to the dark places of the world. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Suffering God, inspire all people by Christ's cross and bring forth resurrection and life. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Saving God, sustain all who suffer and release those imprisoned by pain or disease. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Renewing God, take us and empower us to live according to your will, making us shine with the love of Jesus. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Promising God, keep us steadfastly trusting your Word, just as you kept your powerful prophet Micah. Lord, in your mercy,

C Hear our prayer.

P Give us ears to hear, O God, and eyes to watch that we may know your presence in our midst during this holy season of joy as we anticipate the coming of Jesus Christ.

C Amen.

*LORD'S PRAYER

*BENEDICTION

P No god is like our God!

C The Father, Son and Holy Spirit!

P Pardoning iniquity and passing over transgression.

C He does not stay angry forever--

P Because he delights in steadfast love.

C He casts our sins into the depths of the sea.

P God's fierce judgment--

C Gives way to final grace!

HYMN TO DEPART

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

LSB 357, vs. 5, 6



5 O come, Thou Key of Da - vid, come, And o - pen
6 O come, Thou Day - spring from on high, And cheer us



wide our heav'n - ly home; Make safe the way that
by Thy draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the gloom - y



leads on high, And close the path to mis - er - y.
clouds of night, And death's dark shad - ows put to flight.

Refrain



Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el



Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

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ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Serving our Lord this evening

Officiant: Rev. James Kroonblawd
Elder: Sam Erdman
Organist: Marissa Bernau
Live Stream: Jim Nicklas

Preacher: Rev. Dr. Reed Lessing
Altar Guild: Karen Turnmire and Nancy Strand
Cantor: Dave Workman
Projectionist: Ryan Kroonblawd

Upcoming events



Advent Worship

Join us in person or online for part 4 of our Advent series

Sun, Dec 20 | 8:00am and 10:30am and livestream at www.trinityloneoak.org



Christmas bags for TLO members

Pick up a prepared bag(s) near the end of December and deliver it to the address on the bag. You will deliver Christmas goodies and smiles while receiving much more in return.



Christmas Worship

December 24 | 3:30pm
Christmas Eve Family Worship

December 24 | 7:00pm and live stream at www.trinityloneoak.org
Christmas Eve Worship with Holy Communion

December 25 | 9:00am
Christmas Day Worship with Holy Communion



Worship Sunday, Dec 27 | 9:00am and livestream at www.trinityloneoak.org
Note there is only one worship service and no Sunday school Sunday, Dec 27, 2020.
