



## ADVENT MIDWEEK 3

DECEMBER 17, 2025

*\*congregation stands*

### AS WE GATHER

*You will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus.* Luke 1:31 In this third service for Our Dear Christ Enters In, a special service for Advent, we contemplate the name Jesus, which was given to him at his birth. It is a reminder to us of his reason for entering in to our world: He came to save us

### INVOCATION

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

### LIGHTING THE ADVENT WREATH

- P Beloved in the Lord, as we draw closer to Christmas, may this wreath remind us that Jesus came to conquer the darkness of our sin and lead us into the light of his glorious kingdom, as the prophet Isaiah declares,  
C **"The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light; on those who dwelt in a land of deep darkness, a light has shined."**  
P Let us pray. O Lord Jesus Christ, the true Light who comes into the world to enlighten all peoples, bless us as we light the candles of this wreath in preparation for your coming. Enkindle our hearts with the fire of your love that we may reflect your love to all—especially to those who are still walking in spiritual darkness around us; for you live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.  
C **Amen.**

### HYMN

### PREPARE THE ROYAL HIGHWAY

LSB 343

### \*CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

- P Seek the Lord while he may be found;  
C **Call upon him while he is near;**

P Let the wicked forsake his way,  
C **And the unrighteous man his thoughts;**

P Let him return to the Lord,  
C **That he may have compassion on him,**

P And to our God,  
C **For he will abundantly pardon.**

*(Silently reflect on these words and our need for his forgiveness.)*

P Heavenly Father,  
C **We come before you today with nothing to hide. You've heard everything we've said and seen everything we've done. You even probe our thoughts. You know that every day our lives are filled with disobedience, poorly chosen words and selfish ends. Forgive us for the sake of your Son, Jesus, who lived the perfect life that we could never live and sacrificed himself in our place. Amen.**

P "'Comfort, comfort my people,' says your God. 'Speak tenderly to Jerusalem and cry to her that her iniquity is pardoned'" (Isaiah 40:1-2). In his tender mercy, God has given his Son to die for you and for his sake forgives you all your sins. Therefore, upon this your confession, I announce the grace of God to you. In his stead and by his command, I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.  
C **Amen.**

**\*HYMN OF PRAISE LO! HE COMES WITH CLOUDS DESCENDING LSB 336, vs. 1, 2, 4**

**\*PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING**

*Isaiah 7:10–17*

<sup>10</sup>Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz, <sup>11</sup>"Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven." <sup>12</sup>But Ahaz said, "I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test." <sup>13</sup>And he said, "Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? <sup>14</sup>Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel. <sup>15</sup>He shall eat curds and honey when he knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good. <sup>16</sup>For before the boy knows how to refuse the evil and choose the good, the land whose two kings you dread will be deserted. <sup>17</sup>The LORD will bring upon you and upon your people and upon your father's house such days as have not come since the day that Ephraim departed from Judah—the king of Assyria."

A This is the Word of the Lord.  
C **Thanks be to God.**

**NEW TESTAMENT READING**

*Acts 4:5–12*

<sup>5</sup>On the next day their rulers and elders and scribes gathered together in Jerusalem, <sup>6</sup>with Annas the high priest and Caiaphas and John and Alexander, and all who were of the high-priestly family. <sup>7</sup>And when they

had set them in the midst, they inquired, "By what power or by what name did you do this?" <sup>8</sup>Then Peter, filled with the Holy Spirit, said to them, "Rulers of the people and elders, <sup>9</sup>if we are being examined today concerning a good deed done to a crippled man, by what means this man has been healed, <sup>10</sup>let it be known to all of you and to all the people of Israel that by the name of Jesus Christ of Nazareth, whom you crucified, whom God raised from the dead—by him this man is standing before you well. <sup>11</sup>This Jesus is the stone that was rejected by you, the builders, which has become the cornerstone. <sup>12</sup>And there is salvation in no one else, for there is no other name under heaven given among men by which we must be saved."

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

## **\*GOSPEL READING**

*Luke 1:26–38*

- P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.
- C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

<sup>26</sup>In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent from God to a city of Galilee named Nazareth, <sup>27</sup>to a virgin betrothed to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. And the virgin's name was Mary. <sup>28</sup>And he came to her and said, "Greetings, O favored one, the Lord is with you!" <sup>29</sup>But she was greatly troubled at the saying, and tried to discern what sort of greeting this might be. <sup>30</sup>And the angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. <sup>31</sup>And behold, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus. <sup>32</sup>He will be great and will be called the Son of the Most High. And the Lord God will give to him the throne of his father David, <sup>33</sup>and he will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end."

<sup>34</sup>And Mary said to the angel, "How will this be, since I am a virgin?"

<sup>35</sup>And the angel answered her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be called holy—the Son of God. <sup>36</sup>And behold, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son, and this is the sixth month with her who was called barren. <sup>37</sup>For nothing will be impossible with God." <sup>38</sup>And Mary said, "Behold, I am the servant of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." And the angel departed from her.

- P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
- C **Praise to You, O Christ.**

## **SERMON HYMN HOW SWEET THE NAME OF JESUS SOUNDS LSB 524, vs. 1, 2, 4-6**

### **SERMON**

**\*APOSTLES' CREED** —*See inside back cover of the hymnal or projection slides*

### **OFFERING**

### **\*PRAYERS**

After each petition:

- P Jesus, name above all names,
- C **Look with favor upon us.**

**\*LORD’S PRAYER**—*See inside back cover of the hymnal or projection slides*

**\*BENEDICTION**

**HYMN TO DEPART**                      **COME THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS**                      **LSB 338**

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS**

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		December 17, 2025
Musician	6:30pm	Éowyn Prusak
Cantor	6:30pm	Andy Koch
Altar Guild	6:30pm	Sharon Drews and Nancy Strand
Elder	6:30pm	Bill Breitingner
Reader	6:30pm	Keith Prusak
Usher Team	6:30pm	Andy Olson
Acolyte	6:30pm	Open
Projection	6:30pm	Tim Morris
Live Stream	6:30pm	Jim Nicklas
Advent Meal	5:15pm	WoW Bible study



**Christmas Worship**

Join us as we worship Jesus this Christmas season. Postcard invitations in the narthex make it easy to invite a friend or neighbor to worship with you!

- December 21 | 8:00\*am and 10:30am, Worship | Adult study; no Sunday school
  - December 24 | 3:30pm | Christmas Eve Family Worship
  - December 24 | 7:00\*pm | Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship with Holy Communion
  - December 25 | 9:00\*am | Christmas Day Worship with Holy Communion
  - December 28 | 9:00\*am | Worship (**NOTE: one Sunday service**) | Adult study; no Sunday school
- \*livestreamed at **[www.trinityloneoak.org](http://www.trinityloneoak.org)**