

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

60th Anniversary: "Praise – Love – Share"

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH, TEMPE

December 13, 2020

10:00 a.m.



Rejoicing Always

AS WE GATHER

We hear John the Baptist coming to prepare the way for the Lord, whose earthly birth we are preparing to celebrate and whose coming again on the Last Day is the promise of resurrection and eternal life for all who believe. Between our coming to faith and His coming again, we are called to lives of faith that continue to rejoice, to pray, and to give thanks in every circumstance. We can do that because we have come to the light of our salvation and hope of eternal life. Now certainly it's easier to rejoice, pray, and give thanks when things are going well. It's another thing when we suffer illness or persecution, the reverses, challenges, and disappointments of life. Nevertheless, the Spirit of Christ seeks to enable us to do just that—to rejoice always, to pray always, and to give thanks to God always in all circumstances. This is holy living, constantly keeping the eyes of faith on the sure and certain Word and promises of God for His people, the God who blesses, keeps, comforts, and strengthens us every day. We rejoice with the psalmist, saying, "This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it" (Psalm 118:24).

CASUAL SUNDAY

PRAISE MEDLEY

1. "Come On, Ring Those Bells" –TOSB #30

1. Ev'rybody likes to take a holiday, Ev'rybody likes to take a rest
Spending time together with the family, Sharing lots of love and happiness.

Refrain: Come on, ring those bells, light the Christmas tree. Jesus is the King born for you and me. Come on, ring those bells, ev'rybody say, "Jesus, we remember this your birthday."

2. Celebrations come because of something good,
Celebrations we love to recall. Mary had a baby boy in Bethlehem, The greatest celebration of them all. *Refrain.*

2. "Emmanuel" –TOSB #44

**Emmanuel, Emmanuel, His name is called Emmanuel;
God with us, revealed in us; His name is called Emmanuel.
(Repeat)**

3. "I Have the Joy" –TOSB #150

1. I have the joy, joy, joy, joy, *Down in my heart, down in my heart, *Down in my heart, *I have the joy, joy, joy, joy, down in my heart, *Down in my heart to stay.

2. I have the peace that passes understanding, down in my heart, Down in my heart, down in my heart. I have the peace that passes understanding, down in my heart. Down in my heart to stay.

3. I have the love of Jesus, love of Jesus, down in my heart, Down in my heart, down in my heart, I have the love of Jesus, love of Jesus, down in my heart, Down in my heart to stay.

**"Where" (as indicated 1st verse only)*

4. “The Lord is My Light” – LSB #723

Refrain

The Lord is my light and my salvation, The Lord is the stronghold of my life. Since the Lord is my life, my strength, and my all, Whom then shall I fear?

- 1. There is one thing I ask of the Lord: To dwell in His house forever, To gaze on the beauty of the Lord All the days of my life. *Refrain.***
- 2. Do not hide Your face, O Lord; Ev’ry day I will seek Your face, Though my father and mother may forsake me, The Lord will receive me. *Refrain.***
- 3. Teach me, Lord and keep me on Your paths; Guide me, Lord, along a level way, I will gaze on the goodness of the Lord In the land of all the living. *Refrain.***

PASTORAL WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor: Heavenly Father, Joyful expectation and patient waiting can be difficult to achieve in a world plagued by natural disasters, pandemics and violent human interactions. The dizzying pace of our daily lives allows little time for us to reflect on your wisdom. In this third week of Advent, help us to take heart in the babe of Bethlehem and the joy he brings. Help us to focus not only on the joy of your sons first coming, but his final appearing as well. We pray this in your Holy Name. Amen.

(Stand) The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the

Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Behold, the true light has come into the world. Let us enter into His presence, confessing our sins and receiving His forgiveness.

People: Lord God, our heavenly Father, hear us as we confess the darkness of our waywardness and sin, especially our reluctance or refusal to rejoice, pray, or give thanks amid the troubles we have brought upon ourselves. Make us truly repentant, that we may receive the holiness of faith in our Savior Jesus Christ, the forgiveness of our sins. Amen.

Pastor: The true light has come. To all who receive Him, He makes to be the children of God. Upon this, your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God to all of you. And in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH *(Tune “As with Gladness) (Sing)*

**Light a candle bright and tall For the Joy this season brings.
Joy like fountains brimming full. Through our world now let it
ring! Shine within our hearts today Come, O Joy, to us, we pray.**

INTROIT *(Read responsively)*

Ps. 85:8–9, 12–13; antiphon: Ps. 85:7

Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,
and grant us your salvation.

Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
**for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints;
but let them not turn back to folly.**

Surely his salvation is near to those who fear him,
that glory may dwell in our land.

Yes, the LORD will give what is good,
and our land will yield its increase.

Righteousness will go before him
and make his footsteps a way.

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.

Show us your steadfast love, O LORD,
and grant us your salvation.

KYRIE (*Read responsively*)

Pastor: O Lord,

People: have mercy on us.

Pastor: O Christ,

People: have mercy on us.

Pastor: O Lord,

People: have mercy on us, and give us Your peace. Amen.

SALUTATION AND PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And with thy spirit.

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. (*Sit*)

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 61:1–4, 8–11

¹The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me to bring good news to the poor; he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty

to the captives, and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;

²to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn;

³to grant to those who mourn in Zion—to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit; that they may be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.

⁴They shall build up the ancient ruins; they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations. . . .

⁸For I the LORD love justice; I hate robbery and wrong; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.

⁹Their offspring shall be known among the nations, and their descendants in the midst of the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge them, that they are an offspring the LORD has blessed.

¹⁰I will greatly rejoice in the LORD; my soul shall exult in my God, for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation; he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.

¹¹For as the earth brings forth its sprouts, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to sprout up before all the nations.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

1 Thessalonians 5:16–24

¹⁶Rejoice always, ¹⁷pray without ceasing, ¹⁸give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. ¹⁹Do not quench the Spirit. ²⁰Do not despise prophecies, ²¹but test everything; hold fast what is good. ²²Abstain from every form of evil.

²³Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. ²⁴He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Advent Joy” –Arr. By William D. Young

VERSE (*Stand and speak*)

Pastor: Alleluia. Behold, I send My messenger before Your face,
who will prepare Your way before You.

People: Alleluia.

HOLY GOSPEL

John 1:6–8, 19–28

P The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the first chapter.

C Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

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. . . .

¹⁹And this is the testimony of John, when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, “Who are you?” ²⁰He confessed, and did not deny, but confessed, “I am not the Christ.” ²¹And they asked him, “What then? Are you Elijah?” He said, “I am not.” “Are you the Prophet?” And he answered, “No.” ²²So they said to him, “Who are you? We need to give an answer to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?” ²³He said, “I am the voice of one

crying out in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way of the Lord,' as the prophet Isaiah said."

²⁴(Now they had been sent from the Pharisees.) ²⁵They asked him, "Then why are you baptizing, if you are neither the Christ, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?" ²⁶John answered them, "I baptize with water, but among you stands one you do not know, ²⁷even he who comes after me, the strap of whose sandal I am not worthy to untie." ²⁸These things took place in Bethany across the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

APOSTLE'S CREED

All: 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. (Sit)

SERMON HYMN "This Is My Commandment" TOSB #233, St. 1-3

- 1. This is my commandment that you *love one another*, that your joy may be full. This is my commandment that you *love one another*, that your joy may be full. That your joy may be full, that your joy may be full. This is my**

commandment that you *love one another*, that your joy may be full.

2. *Trust one another.*

3. *Serve one another.*

SERMON

“Greatly Rejoice”

Isaiah 61:1–4, 8–11

OFFERING / VOLUNTARY

“Give Thanks with a Grateful Heart” -LSB #806

1 Give thanks with a grateful heart, Give thanks to the Holy One, Give thanks because He’s given Jesus Christ His Son. (2x)

And now let the weak say “I am strong,” Let the poor say “I am rich,” Because of what the Lord has done for us. (2x)

Give thanks, give thanks.

Give Thanks -1978 Written by Henry Smith Jr. in 1952 at age 26, Born in Williamsburg, Virginia

Suffered from degenerative eye disease BUT Graduated from College & Seminary, then Was declared legally blind.

-couldn’t find long-term work, so did odd jobs

-His pastor quoted 2 Cor.8:9 and from this

He derived:

“And now let the weak say, “I am strong!”

Let the poor say, “I am rich because of what the Lord has done for us.”

And from Eph.5: 20

“Give thanks for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, submitting yourselves one to another in the fear of God.”

Today, he runs a recording studio and Plays bass with his church’s worship team. Of his blindness he says: “It slows me down, but it doesn’t stop me.”

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH (*Stand*)

Pastor: Let us pray for the whole people of God in Christ Jesus

and for all people according to their needs.

For the Holy Christian Church throughout the world and for all who confess the name of Christ, that God guard and defend us from all temptations of the devil, the world, and our sinful nature, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For Rev. Harrison, our Synod President, Rev. Gibson, our District President, for all pastors and servants of Christ, that they proclaim with faithfulness and clarity the true light of the Gospel in all they do, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the government and all who have been set into positions of leadership, that they use the authority entrusted to them honorably and for the good of all people, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For all who suffer from hunger, homelessness, poverty, or unemployment, that God's great mercy and love preserve and relieve them, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those who are sick, . . . , that God grant healing to their bodies and strength to bear their infirmities with patience and grace, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For those who rejoice in the rich blessings of God, that they always remember the Giver of every gift and give Him heartfelt thanks, let us pray to the Lord:

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in Your mercy; through Your Son, Jesus Christ, our Lord.

People: Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER *(Spoken)*

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.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“Go, My Children, with My Blessing” TOSB #922

- 1 Go, My children, with My blessing, Never alone.
Waking, sleeping, I am with you; You are My own.
In My love's baptismal river I have made you Mine forever.
Go, My children, with My blessing—You are My own.**
- 2 Go, My children, sins forgiven, At peace and pure.
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure.
Here you heard My dear Son's story; Here you touched Him,
saw His glory. Go, My children, sins forgiven, At peace and
pure.**
- 3 Go, My children, fed and nourished, Closer to Me;
Grow in love and love by serving, Joyful and free.
Here My Spirit's power filled you; Here His tender comfort
stilled you. Go, My children, fed and nourished, Joyful and
free.**

POSTLUDE

“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light” -Katherine Thomerson

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
1337 W. 11th St, Tempe, AZ 85281-5398
Office 480-967-2660 Second Line 480-967-2686
Office Hours: Mon-Fri 8:30 a.m-12:30 p.m.
WEB: www.beautifulsaviortempe.org
Email for BSLC: office@beautifulsaviortempe.org

SERVING US AT WORSHIP TODAY:

Officiant Preacher: .Rev. Tim Anderson
Pianist/Director: Ellen Brown
Praise Band/Special Music: Debby & Doug Bergman, Ellen Brown
Lector: Don Schumm
Greeters: Marsha Beetham
Acolyte: Joe Carlin

Visitors, please sign (with a complete address) our **Guest Book** on the podium in the entryway before you leave and/or complete a **grey/cream “Worship Information” card** found in the pew in front of you. Members are also encouraged to complete a “Worship Information” card (you can update address and phone number, request a pastoral visit).

Pastor Spallek is available to you for pastoral and spiritual needs (prayer support, hospital calls, counseling, private communion, etc). He can be reached through the office.

WE CAN ASSIST THOSE UNABLE TO HEAR WELL...We have 3 cordless headsets available to use in the pews. Just let an usher know and they will be happy to bring you one.

**Attendance for 12-6-20: Bible Study—NA; Worship Service—28.
Income report for 12-6-20: Loose Plate \$7; Weekly Envelopes \$3942;
Designated Gifts \$200; Other Advent 1 \$270; Total \$4419.**

THIS WEEK AT BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR

December 13, Sunday

NO Adult Bible Study in Fuerbringer Hall

10 AM The Third Sunday in Advent - Casual Worship (*Also, being
streamed on Facebook online*)

11:30 AM Board of Trustees Meeting

11:30 AM Stewardship Committee Meeting

December 15, Tuesday

7 PM Council Meeting

December 16, Wednesday

7 PM Midweek 2 Advent Worship (*Also, streamed*)

December 18, Friday

11AM Church & Offices cleaned

December 20, Sunday

No Adult Bible Study in Fuerbringer Hall

10 AM The Fourth Sunday in Advent Worship w/Holy Communion

Prayer List: For the families of **Christina Spallek** a service will be held on Dec. 19th-1:30 p.m. at Hosanna Lutheran Church is Saturday, Dec. 19 & **Gerald Goschie** laid to rest on Wednesday, Dec 9th. Cancer patients **Amina Kruck, Gerri Koski**; for continued recovery for Maebell Beard, Tom Kruck, Glenn Brown, Larry Wroblewski, **Fran** Lucy Durham's cousin.

**FOR AT HOME WORSHIPERS WHO STILL VIEW SERVICES
ONLINE INSTRUCTIONS ARE BELOW:**

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE YOU CAN GO ONLINE & VIEW AT

1) Open a webpage browser (internet explorer, chrome, Firefox, etc.)

- 2) Type or paste the following link into your address bar:
www.facebook.com/BeautifulSaviorLutheranChurchTempe/
- 3) Option 1 - Scroll until you find a post that shows a “Live” feed titled for the Sunday service, or
- 4) Option 2 - Click on the “Videos” button on the left-hand sidebar (ignore anything asking you to sign up or sign in to Facebook)
- 5) Look for the video titled for the date of the Sunday service. Video stream will be live starting at or around 10am. If it does not show up, try refreshing the page. The video of the service will remain on the page if you would like to view it at a later time, or to replay it again at your discretion.

Lutheran Hour Broadcast - KFAX RADIO (1100) @ 10 AM:

December 20 "Experience God " Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler.
 We will never fully grasp the idea of God, but that doesn't keep us from experiencing God's love for us in Christ. (John 1:1-18)

ADVENT SERVICES SCHEDULE - 2020

Midweek Advent 3 Worship	Dec. 16	7 p.m.
Fourth Sunday in Advent w/Holy Communion	Dec. 20	10 a.m.
Christmas Eve Worship	Dec. 24	8 p.m.
Christmas Day Worship w/Holy Communion	Dec. 25	10 a.m.

**Sundays before Christmas - 9:40 - 10:00 AM Pre-Service Advent
 Christmas Carol Sing-A-Longs!!**