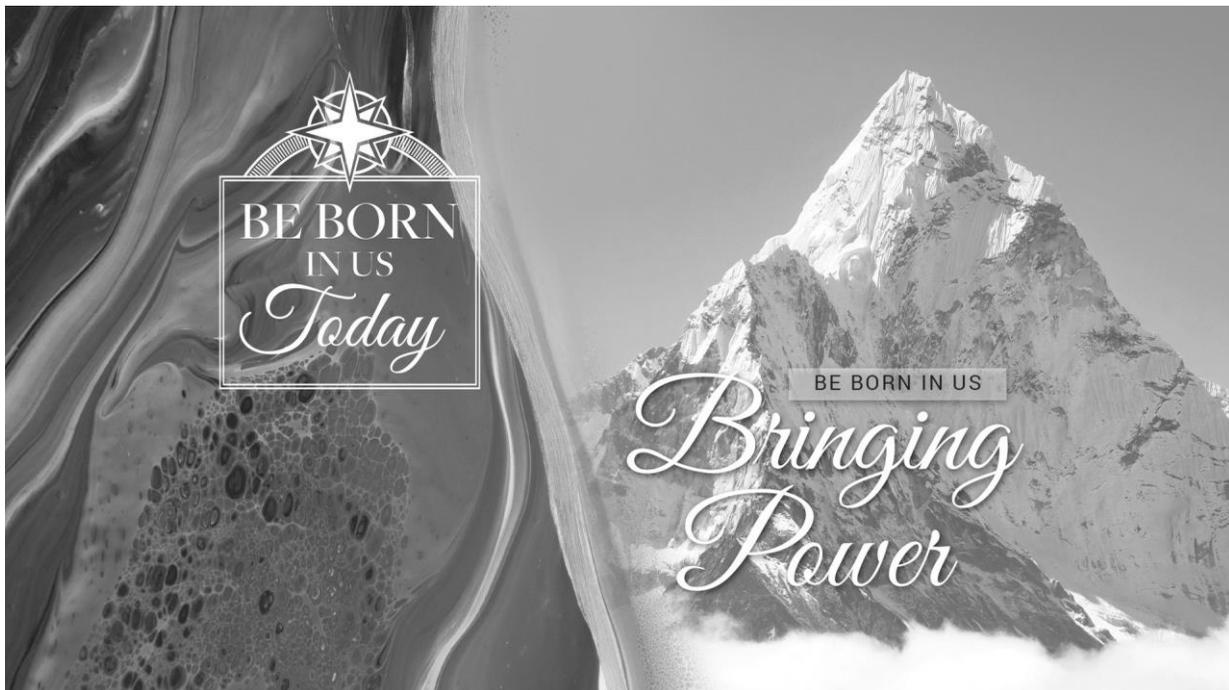


THE THIRD WEDNESDAY OF ADVENT

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church, Tempe

December 14th, 2022

12:00 p.m. & 7:00pm



Be Born In Us: Bringing Power

AS WE GATHER

In this third service in our Be Born in Us Today series for Advent, we think of John the Baptist, who pointed to the power of God present in Christ Jesus. That power is still at work in Christ. And he is born in us today.

THEME VERSE

Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power, your right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy. Exodus 15:6

PRELUDE

“In Dulci Jubilo: (*In Sweet Rejoicing*)-J.S. Bach

PASTORAL WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER

Holy God of Joy, we rejoice in the reality of who you are. We live within the joy of your love for us. Our contentment comes and goes. Our happiness ebbs and flows. Our feelings depend upon our circumstances, our physical health, our brain chemistry. But our joy is deeply rooted in our identity as your beloved children and in the power of your salvation. Amen.

OPENING HYMN

“The King Shall Come When Morning Comes” **LSB #348, St. 1-5**

- 1 The King shall come when morning dawns and light triumphant breaks, when beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy awakes.**
- 2 Not as of old a little child, to bear and fight and die,
But crowned with glory like the sun that lights the morning sky.**
- 3 Oh, brighter than the rising morn when Christ, victorious, rose
And left the lonesome place of death despite the rage of foes.**
- 4 Oh, brighter than that glorious morn shall dawn upon our race
The day when Christ in splendor comes and we shall see His face.**
- 5 The King shall come when morning dawns and light and beauty brings. hail, Christ the Lord! Your people pray: Come quickly,
King of kings!**

INVOCATION AND LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

P In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C **Amen.**

P We light the third candle on the Advent wreath as we draw near to the celebration of Jesus’ birth. The Christ Child came in power, but

his power was hidden in weakness. The little child who was wrapped in swaddling cloths and laid in a manger in Bethlehem, is “the power of God, wisdom of God, and Joy of God”

C Holy Child of Bethlehem, be born in us today. You came in power to save us!

P The power of God to save is revealed in Christ Jesus—in his humble manger bed, in his weakness and suffering on the cross and in the empty tomb on the day of his resurrection! “The word of the cross is folly to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God” (1 Corinthians 1:18).

C Holy Child of Bethlehem, be born in us today. Lord Jesus, you are glorious in power and majesty!

The first three candles are lit as we sing.

HYMN OF WREATH LIGHTING “Light One Candle” by Natalie Sleeth
(All God’s People Sing #163)

- 1. Light one candle for hope, one bright candle for hope.
He brings hope to ev’ry heart, He comes! He comes!**
- 2. Light one candle for peace, one bright candle for peace.
He brings peace to ev’ry heart, He comes! He comes!**
- 3. Light one candle for joy, one bright candle for joy.
Ev’ry nation will find salvation in Beth-l’hem’s baby boy.**
- 4. Light one candle for love, one bright candle love,
He brings love to ev’ry heart, He comes! He comes!
He brings love to ev’ry heart, He comes! He comes!**

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

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

P Let us confess our sins to God and ask his forgiveness.

C **Almighty God, so often we turn away from your Word and your holy will to follow our own desires and the temptations of the world around us. We fail to love others as we should. We have sinned against you in our thoughts, words and actions. Have**

mercy on us and forgive us.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P God has had mercy on us. He sent his Son to be our Savior. In weakness the Son of God, Jesus our Lord, died on the cross for us. In power he rose from the dead in triumph over sin, death and the devil. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C Amen.

HYMN OF ABSOLUTION "O Little Town Of Bethlehem" **LSB #361 V1**

1 O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; Cast out our sin and enter in. Be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Immanuel!

PRAYER OF THE DAY

P The Lord be with you.

C And also with you.

P Let us pray.

P Almighty God, at the right time you sent your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ, to be our Savior. Coming in power to save, our Lord was born in Bethlehem and laid in a humble manger. His mighty power was hidden in the weakness and suffering of his death on the cross and revealed in his triumphant resurrection. He has rescued us from sin, death and the devil. In the power of the Holy Spirit, lead us to follow Jesus and walk in his ways. Help us to be bold witnesses to his love and saving power so that others will come to know and worship him as Lord. Hear our prayer in Jesus' name.

C Amen.

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 15:1-18

15 ¹Then Moses and the people of Israel sang this song to the Lord, saying,
"I will sing to the Lord, for he has triumphed gloriously;

- the horse and his rider he has thrown into the sea.
- ² The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation; this is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him.
- ³ The Lord is a man of war; the Lord is his name.
- ⁴ "Pharaoh's chariots and his host he cast into the sea, and his chosen officers were sunk in the Red Sea.
- ⁵ The floods covered them; they went down into the depths like a stone.
- ⁶ Your right hand, O Lord, glorious in power, your right hand, O Lord, shatters the enemy.
- ⁷ In the greatness of your majesty you overthrow your adversaries; you send out your fury; it consumes them like stubble.
- ⁸ At the blast of your nostrils the waters piled up; the floods stood up in a heap; the deeps congealed in the heart of the sea.
- ⁹ The enemy said, 'I will pursue, I will overtake, I will divide the spoil, my desire shall have its fill of them. I will draw my sword; my hand shall destroy them.'
- ¹⁰ You blew with your wind; the sea covered them; they sank like lead in the mighty waters.
- ¹¹ "Who is like you, O Lord, among the gods? Who is like you, majestic in holiness, awesome in glorious deeds, doing wonders?
- ¹² You stretched out your right hand; the earth swallowed them.
- ¹³ "You have led in your steadfast love the people whom you have redeemed; you have guided them by your strength to your holy abode.
- ¹⁴ The peoples have heard; they tremble; pangs have seized the inhabitants of Philistia.
- ¹⁵ Now are the chiefs of Edom dismayed; trembling seizes the leaders of Moab; all the inhabitants of Canaan have melted away.
- ¹⁶ Terror and dread fall upon them; because of the greatness of your arm, they are still as a stone, till your people, O Lord, pass by, till the people pass by whom you have purchased.

¹⁷ You will bring them in and plant them on your own mountain,
the place, O Lord, which you have made for your abode,
the sanctuary, O Lord, which your hands have established.

¹⁸ The Lord will reign forever and ever.”

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE READING

Galatians 4:3-7

³ In the same way we also, when we were children, were enslaved to the elementary principles of the world. ⁴ But when the fullness of time had come, God sent forth his Son, born of woman, born under the law, ⁵ to redeem those who were under the law, so that we might receive adoption as sons. ⁶ And because you are sons, God has sent the Spirit of his Son into our hearts, crying, “Abba! Father!” ⁷ So you are no longer a slave, but a son, and if a son, then an heir through God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC (7:00 pm)

"A Hallelujah Christmas" by Leonard Cohen & Lance Stafford

Gospel Refrain (*Sing*)

“Soon and Very Soon” (WOV #744)

- 1. Soon and very soon we are going to see the King! (3x)
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We are going to see the King!**
- 2. No more crying there, we are going to see the King! (3x)
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We are going to see the King!**
- 3. No more dying there, we are going to see the King! (3x)
Hallelujah! Hallelujah! We are going to see the King!**
- 4. Repeat Verse 1.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 3:15-17

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

C Glory to You, O Lord.

¹⁵ As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, ¹⁶ John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, 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.

HYMN OF THE DAY

"Creator of the Stars of Night" **LSB Hymn # 351, St. 1-6**

- 1** Creator of the stars of night, Thy people's everlasting Light:
O Christ, Redeemer, save us all And hear Thy servants when they call.
- 2** Thou, grieving that the ancient curse Should doom to death a universe, hast found the healing, full of grace, to cure and save our ruined race.

- 3 **Thou cam'st the Bridegroom of the bride, as drew the world to eventide, the spotless Victim all divine proceeding from a virgin shrine.**
- 4 **At whose dread name, majestic now, all knees must bend, all hearts must bow; all things celestial Thee shall own, and things terrestrial, Lord alone.**
- 5 **O Thou, whose coming is with dread to judge the living and the dead, preserve us from the ancient foe while still we dwell on earth below.**
- 6 **To God the Father and the Son and Holy Spirit, Three in One, Praise, honor, might, and glory be from age to age eternally. Amen.**

SERMON

God's Way of Winning

Exodus 15:1-6

OFFERTORY HYMN

"Arise, O Christian People!" LBS #354 V. 1

- 1 **Arise, O Christian people! Prepare yourselves today; Prepare to greet the Savior, who takes your sins away. To us by grace alone the truth and light were given; The promised Lord from heaven to all the world is shown.**

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

- P** Lord and Savior, look in mercy on those who suffer from illness, grief and loneliness. Strengthen them in faith and comfort them according to the promises of your Word. By your mighty power, bring them healing according to your will. Holy Child of Bethlehem,
- C** **Be born in us today. Lead us by the power of your Spirit to share your love and compassion with those in need.**
- P** Lord and Savior, you sent John the Baptist to prepare the way before you. Through a baptism of repentance, the people were made ready to welcome you, their Messiah and Lord. Holy Child of Bethlehem,
- C** **Be born in us today. Help us, according to your command, to**

proclaim to all nations repentance and forgiveness in your name.

P Lord and Savior, you brought Israel safely across the Red Sea and in glorious triumph defeated their enemies. Through your mighty power, hidden in your suffering and death and revealed in your resurrection, you defeated sin, death and the devil for us. Holy Child of Bethlehem,

C Be born in us today. Your glorious power shattered our enemies!

P Holy Savior, Lord of might and power, hear our prayers and accept our praise.

C 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.
Amen.**

BENEDICTION

P “The Lord is my strength and my song, and he has become my salvation;

C This is my God, and I will praise him, my father's God, and I will exalt him” (Exodus 15:2).

P “May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope” (Romans 15:13).

C Amen.

CLOSING HYMN

“From Heaven Above To Earth I Come” **LSB #358, St. 1, 14 & 15**

1 “From heav’n above to earth I come To bear good news to ev’ry home; Glad tidings of great joy I bring, Whereof I now will say and sing:

14 My heart for very joy must leap; my lips no more can silence keep. I, too, must sing with joyful tongue that sweetest ancient cradlesong:

15 Glory to God in highest heav’n, Who unto us His Son has giv’n! While angels sing with pious mirth a glad new year to all the earth.

POSTLUDE

“Jesus, the Light of the World”

ADVENT AND CHRISTMAS SCHEDULE:

Midweek Advent 3 Worship**

Dec. 14, 12 p.m. & 7 p.m.

Fourth Sunday in Advent w/Holy Communion Dec. 18, 10:00 a.m.

Christmas Eve services: Saturday Dec. 24 at 7:00pm & 11:00pm.

Christmas Day service: Sunday Dec. 25th 2022 at 10:00am

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

Organist/Director:

Ellen Brown

Song Leader / Special Music (7 pm):

Charles Haynes

Pianist (7 p.m.):