

THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Beautiful Savior Lutheran Church

December 17, 2023

10:00am.



AS WE GATHER

The prophet Isaiah wrote these words hundreds of years before Jesus would be born, “For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end.” Jesus comes to be our prophet, our priest and our King. He leads his people as he draws us to himself and shows us more clearly who he is and what it means to pick up our crosses and follow him. As we return to the manger, we also know this newborn king is our rabbi, our teacher, who teaches us to pray, “Thy Kingdom Come and Thy will be done.”

PRELUDE

“Prepare the Way of the Lord” -Jacques Berthier
(Taize). The Bells & The Choir

PASTORAL WELCOME

OPENING PRAYER

Pastor: Let us pray,

The King is coming. You arrive O God, clothed in frail human flesh, wrapped in swaddling cloths and placed in a manger. This is not the first time You have come to us, O God. The history of human affairs is the history of Your arrival among us, as Creator, Purpose-Giver, Liberator, Prophet's voice and Priest's desire. We believe O Lord, that the story of each of our lives is the story of Your coming to us, as Comforter, Friend, Example, Challenger and Abundant-Life-Provider. As such we praise You and ask You to open our eyes to Your Presence, Lord; Come to us again, Lord as we sing “Glory to the Newborn King.”

People: Amen.

OPENING HYMN “Heralds of Christ” St.1 & 3, Tune: National Hymn

- 1 Heralds of Christ, who bear the King's commands,
Immortal tidings in your mortal hands,
Pass on and carry swift the news you bring;
Make straight, make straight the highway of the King.**

- 3 Lord, give us faith and strength the road to build,
To see the promise of the day fulfilled,
When war shall be no more, and strife shall cease
Upon the highway of the Prince of Peace.**

Stand

INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the † Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness

Pastor: Our help is in the name of the Lord,

People: who made heaven and earth.

Pastor: I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,

People: and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

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

Pastor: O almighty God, merciful Father,

People: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto 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.

SERVICE OF THE WORD

INTROIT. *(Read responsively)*

Psalm 85:8–9, 12–13; antiphon: v. 7

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

**People: 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.**

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

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

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

**People: 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.**

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

KYRIE *(Sing)*

LSB 186

**People: Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.**

SALUTATION AND COLLECT OF THE DAY

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And with thy spirit.

Pastor: 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.

People: Amen.

Be seated

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

Pastor: As we move deeper into the season of Advent, focusing on our Lord's coming, we light the third candle—the candle of joy. This is the joy the angel spoke about to the shepherds as he said:

People: **I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all people.**

(The first two blue candles and the pink candle are lit.)

Pastor: Though you have not seen Christ, you love him;

People: **Even though we do not see him now, we believe in him and are filled with an inexpressible and glorious joy.**

Pastor: For he comes with healing in his wings, he comes for all people.

People: **To bring salvation of our souls.**

Pastor: So, with the joy of celebrating Christ's first coming and as we wait for his return, we gather and we sing:

***Light one candle for HOPE, one bright candle for HOPE,
He brings HOPE to every heart, He comes, He comes.***

***Light one candle for PEACE, one bright candle for PEACE,
He brings PEACE to every heart, He comes, He comes.***

***Light one candle for JOY, one bright candle for JOY,
He brings Joy to every heart, He comes, He comes.***

RITE OF NEW MEMBERSHIP

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Exodus 18:13-24

¹³ The next day Moses sat to judge the people, and the people stood around Moses from morning till evening. ¹⁴ When Moses' father-in-law

saw all that he was doing for the people, he said, “What is this that you are doing for the people? Why do you sit alone, and all the people stand around you from morning till evening?” ¹⁵ And Moses said to his father-in-law, “Because the people come to me to inquire of God; ¹⁶ when they have a dispute, they come to me and I decide between one person and another, and I make them know the statutes of God and his laws.” ¹⁷ Moses' father-in-law said to him, “What you are doing is not good. ¹⁸ You and the people with you will certainly wear yourselves out, for the thing is too heavy for you. You are not able to do it alone. ¹⁹ Now obey my voice; I will give you advice, and God be with you! You shall represent the people before God and bring their cases to God, ²⁰ and you shall warn them about the statutes and the laws, and make them know the way in which they must walk and what they must do. ²¹ Moreover, look for able men from all the people, men who fear God, who are trustworthy and hate a bribe, and place such men over the people as chiefs of thousands, of hundreds, of fifties, and of tens. ²² And let them judge the people at all times. Every great matter they shall bring to you, but any small matter they shall decide themselves. So it will be easier for you, and they will bear the burden with you. ²³ If you do this, God will direct you, you will be able to endure, and all this people also will go to their place in peace.” ²⁴ So Moses listened to the voice of his father-in-law and did all that he had said.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

EPISTLE READING

1 Timothy 3:1-16

3 The saying is trustworthy: If anyone aspires to the office of overseer, he desires a noble task. ² Therefore an overseer must be above reproach, the husband of one wife, sober-minded, self-controlled, respectable, hospitable, able to teach, ³ not a drunkard, not violent but gentle, not quarrelsome, not a lover of money. ⁴ He must manage his own household well, with all dignity keeping his children submissive, ⁵ for if someone does not know how to manage his own

household, how will he care for God's church? ⁶ He must not be a recent convert, or he may become puffed up with conceit and fall into the condemnation of the devil. ⁷ Moreover, he must be well thought of by outsiders, so that he may not fall into disgrace, into a snare of the devil.

⁸ Deacons likewise must be dignified, not double-tongued, not addicted to much wine, not greedy for dishonest gain. ⁹ They must hold the mystery of the faith with a clear conscience. ¹⁰ And let them also be tested first; then let them serve as deacons if they prove themselves blameless. ¹¹ Their wives likewise must be dignified, not slanderers, but sober-minded, faithful in all things. ¹² Let deacons each be the husband of one wife, managing their children and their own households well. ¹³ For those who serve well as deacons gain a good standing for themselves and also great confidence in the faith that is in Christ Jesus.

¹⁴ I hope to come to you soon, but I am writing these things to you so that, ¹⁵ if I delay, you may know how one ought to behave in the household of God, which is the church of the living God, a pillar and buttress of the truth. ¹⁶ Great indeed, we confess, is the mystery of godliness:

He was manifested in the flesh,
vindicated by the Spirit,
seen by angels,
proclaimed among the nations,
believed on in the world,
taken up in glory.

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

SPECIAL MUSIC

“Silent Night” -Handbell Choir

Stand

ALLELUIA AND VERSE *(Sing)*

Page 190

People: Alleluia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life. Alleluia.

GOSPEL READING

Matthew 19:13-15

Pastor: The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the nineteenth chapter.

People: **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

¹³ Then children were brought to him that he might lay his hands on them and pray. The disciples rebuked the people, ¹⁴ but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of heaven." ¹⁵ And he laid his hands on them and went away.

Pastor: This is the Gospel of the Lord.

People: **Praise to Thee, O Christ.**

NICENE CREED *(Spoken)*

Page 174

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 † of the world to come. Amen.

HYMN OF THE DAY

“Lead On Oh King Eternal” TOSB #120

- 1 Lead on, O King Eternal, The day of march has come; Hence forth in fields of conquest Thy tents shall be our home. Thro’ days of preparation Thy grace has made us strong. And now, O King Eternal, We lift our battle song.**
- 2 Lead on, O King Eternal, Till sin’s fierce war shall cease, and Holiness shall whisper the Sweet Amen of peace; for not with swords loud clashing, Nor roll of stirring drums; With deeds of love and mercy, The heavenly kingdom comes.**
- 3 Lead on, O King Eternal, We follow, not with fears; For gladness breaks like morning Where’er Thy face appears; Thy cross is lifted o’er us; We journey in its light: The crown a waits the conquest; Lead on, O God of might.**

SERMON Get out of the way! Lead through His ways.

OFFERTORY HYMN (Sing)

LSB 192

People: Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.

Stand

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

(Congregation response to petitions: **Hear our prayer**):

SERVICE OF THE SACRAMENT

PREFACE

LSB 194

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with they spirit.**

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

Pastor: Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

Pastor: It is truly meet, 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 singing.

SANCTUS *(Sing)*

LSB 195

People: **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth; Heaven and earth are full of Thy glory. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord. Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.**

LORD'S PRAYER

LSB 196

People: 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

PAX DOMINI

LSB 197

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

People: Amen.

AGNUS DEI *(Sing)*

LSB 198

People: O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace. Amen

Sit

DISTRIBUTION

DISTRIBUTION HYMNS

(piano) "Son of God" D. Thomas/Arr. Gloria Roe

1) O Come, O Come Emmanuel **LSB 357 V. 1, 6-7**

**1 O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,
That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.
Refrain**

Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to thee, O Israel!

6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high, And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh; Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put to flight. Refrain

7 O come, Desire of nations, bind In one the hearts of all mankind; Bid Thou our sad divisions cease, And be Thyself our King of Peace. Refrain

2) "Soul, Adorn Yourself with Gladness" – LSB #636, V 1, 5, & 7

1 Soul, adorn yourself with gladness, Leave the gloomy haunts of sadness, Come into the daylight's splendor, There with joy your praises render. Bless the One whose grace unbounded This amazing banquet founded; He, though heav'nly, high, and holy, Deigns to dwell with you most lowly.

5 Jesus, source of lasting pleasure, Truest friend, and dearest treasure, Peace beyond all understanding, Joy into all life expanding: Humbly now, I bow before You; Love incarnate, I adore You; Worthily let me receive You And, so favored, never leave You.

7 Lord, by love and mercy driven, You once left Your throne in Heaven On the cross for me to languish And to die in bitter anguish, To forego all joy and gladness And to shed Your blood in sadness. By this blood redeemed and living, Lord, I praise You with thanksgiving.

Stand

NUNC DIMITTIS (*Sing*)

LSB 199

People: Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word, for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of all people, A light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel. Glory be to the Father and to the

Son and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

THANKSGIVING & POST-COMMUNION COLLECT. LSB 200-201

Pastor: O give thanks unto the Lord, for he is good.

People: **And His mercy endureth forever.**

Pastor: Let us pray.

Gracious God, our heavenly Father, You have given us a foretaste of the feast to come in the Holy Supper of Your Son's body and blood. Keep us firm in the true faith throughout our days of pilgrimage that, on the day of His coming, we may, together with all Your saints, celebrate the marriage feast of the Lamb in His kingdom which has no end; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever

People: **Amen.**

SALUTATION & BENEDICAMUS LSB 201

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: **And with thy spirit**

Pastor: Bless we the Lord.

People: **Thanks be to God.**

BENEDICTION LSB 202

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you. The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and † give you peace.

People: **Amen.**

CLOSING HYMN "Soon And Very Soon" TOSB #191, St.1-3

- 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!**

POSTLUDE

“Variations on an Ancient Noel” -Leon Rogues/Arr. Willard Nevins

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Join us for Sunday Bible study on the book of Revelation. Will not meet Dec. 24th or Dec. 31st. We will resume on Jan. 7th at 8:30AM.

Women's Weekly Bible Study December 18th class is canceled. Our next meeting will be Monday, January 8th at noon. We will study Elizabeth.

Christmas Poinsettias: Order forms are available starting today Sunday Dec. 10th. We will need all order forms back by no later than Dec. 20th. Poinsettias are \$10 per plant.

Congregational Christmas Party: Join us on Dec. 20th at 6pm for our annual Beautiful Savior Christmas Party. This event is potluck and everyone is encouraged to bring a dish to share. We will also once again be having our Gift Exchange. Please bring an item worth between \$15-\$20 if you plan on being a part of the exchange. Any questions, contact Pastor Tim.

Christmas Eve Worship: Join us this Christmas Eve with services at 10am, 7pm and 11pm. Our morning service will be a different liturgy than our evening service so join us more than once on Sunday Dec. 24th and hear the Good News of Great Joy for all people.

Christmas Day Worship: Monday Dec. 25th at 10am. Come and hear the great news that God had taken on flesh to dwell with us, and among us as our savior. He knows what it means to be

human and yet is still fully God and able to offer the sacrifice for sin that we could never make. Join us on Christmas Day at 10am.

Planet Green recycle container is in the fellowship hall by the thermostats.

Fellowship Hour: If you would like to bring something in to share during fellowship, please sign your name on the date you would like. The schedule is on the fellowship board. Questions, talk to Pastor Tim.

Church Members and others who wish to “give electronically” can now do so by going to: easytithe.com/BSLCTempe.

On the giving page, click on "Fund" and select the appropriate fund from the drop-down list. The funds are: General budget, LWML, Missions, La Mesa & Staff Continuing Education.

BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR LUTHERAN CHURCH
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WEB: www.beautifulsaviortempe.org
Email for BSLC: office@beautifulsaviortempe.org

SERVING US AT WORSHIP TODAY:

Officiant Preacher:	Pastor Tim Anderson
Organist/Dir. of Music:	Ellen Brown
Song Leader:	Debby Bergman
Handbell Director:	Wendy Sievers
Special Music:	The Beautiful Savior Handbell Choir & the Beautiful Savior Singers
Lector Reader:	Derick Benson
Assisting Elder:	Skip McFadden
Greeter:	Kathy Held
Acolyte:	TBA

Altar:

Bobbie Littou, Charlotte Grefe

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 Tim's Office Hours: Pastor Tim is available Monday through Thursday, 10am - 3pm as well as by appointment. Cell phone #480-536-2256.

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 week: 12-10-2023; 12-10-23 Bible Class—8; Worship Service—47; 12-11-2023 Women’s Bible Study—6; 12/14 La Mesa meal—96, La Mesa worship—31; La Mesa Baptism—NA. Income report for 12-10-23: Loose Plate \$149; Weekly Envelopes \$4527; Designated Gifts \$879; Other \$; Total \$5,555. Midweek 2 Total: 475.

THIS WEEK AT BEAUTIFUL SAVIOR

December 17, Sunday

8:30 AM Adult Bible Study

9:30 AM Choir Rehearsal

10 AM The Third Sunday in Advent -Rite Of New Membership, w/Holy Communion

(Also, being streamed on Facebook online)

December 18, Monday

NO Women’s Bible Study

December 19, Tuesday

9:30 AM Braille Printing Group

December 20, Wednesday

6 PM BSLC Christmas Party

December 21 Thursday

4-7 PM La Mesa

December 22, Friday

Church & Offices Cleaned

December 24, Sunday

10 AM The Christmas Eve Morning Celebration – w/Holy Communion

7 PM & 11 PM Christmas Candle Light Worship

Prayer List: We pray for strength, comfort and healing for:

Judy Mahr-broken hip, **Bobbie Littou**, **Nolan Conley**, **Blue Sky**, Charlotte's, grand baby, **Marianne Lemkau**, **Nola** vision problems, **Mary Tarsitano**, **Bobbie Littou**, **Natalia's** daughter **Lara**, also her sister **Adriana**, **Carol Hurley**, **Josh**, **Ken**, **Jane Schutkowski**, **Mason Midkiff**, **Phyllis Schinke**, **Wendy Sievers**, **Bev Dase**, **Ken w/MS**, **Kathy Held** having foot surgery on 12/28;

Pastor Pope in hospice care;

Kevin, out of hospital, prayers of thanks;

Nicole McClain, **Mindy**, **Amina Kruck**, **Annalisa Durnan**, **Jan Buel**, **Alice & her husband Randy**, **Beth Ruettinger**, **Brenda Frank**, **Warren**, **Cheryl**, **Jim Schutkowski** – cancer treatments;

Doris Reith and **Len Lacy** - memory care;

For the family of **Tim Tomaszewski** who passed away.

For the Family of **Les Carlson** who passed away.

For the family of **Pastor Kosburg**, whose son-in-law passed away.

All nations dealing with hardships and for military deployed to areas of conflict;

FOR AT HOME WORSHIPERS WHO MAY 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 - KFNX RADIO (1100) @ 10 AM

December 17 "**Life After Landing**" Lutheran Hour Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. What happens when a passenger suddenly has to be the pilot? Dr. Michael Zeigler talks about the power of words to save. (Isaiah 61:1-2)



HOLY COMMUNION. . .OUR UNDERSTANDING

It is the special joy of the baptized and instructed Christian to celebrate Christ in our very midst with the Sacrament of the Altar (Holy Communion). The Scripture clearly and carefully teaches that, in Holy Communion, the very Body and the very Blood of our Lord Jesus are really present in, with, and under the forms of bread and wine. It also teaches that "A man ought to examine himself before he eats of the bread and drinks of the cup. For anyone who eats and drinks without recognizing the body of the Lord (acknowledging the Real Presence of Jesus with the elements) eats and drinks judgment on himself." (I Corinthians 11:28-29).

Communicants, then, are rightfully prepared and "worthy" when they:

- *are truly penitent of their sins;*
- *even now embrace Jesus as their Savior and recognize His Real Presence in the bread and the wine; and*
- *seek to amend their sinful lives, with the assistance of this Meal and the power of the Holy Spirit.*

If you have any further questions, please speak with the Pastor before the service.

Other notes on the distribution of Holy Communion:

- *1) Wine is the Biblical standard for all communicants. However, grape juice is in some glasses and available in the center of each tray for those who have an intolerance to alcohol.*
 - *2) The Blood of Christ, in, with and under the wine, is served in individual glasses.*
- 3) Children and adults not instructed or confirmed are still encouraged to approach The Table to receive a blessing.*