



*We invite, encourage, educate and empower
all people to follow God and serve others.”*

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2017

Welcome to worship where we celebrate together as the family of God the coming of his Son for our salvation. Each week as part of our Together in Advent series we will focus on a different activity for our “to-do list”. The theme for this service is Share Joy. In this time when we share cookies and other treats with one another, we share joy with those around us that they might taste and see that the Lord is good to us through the birth of his Son. Let the hymns, prayers, Scripture readings, children’s message and sermon in this worship service make the joy of Christ known to you this day.

PRELUDE

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

RINGING OF THE BELL

GATHERING HYMN *“Joy to the World”* #267 vs 1, 2

INVOCATION

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

CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS

We confess our sin.

Lord, we come before you in prayer today, asking for forgiveness. We have not loved as we ought to love, we have not given as we ought to give, and we have fallen short of the mark of truly being your obedient sons and daughters. We recognize our sins and in this moment of silence, we privately remember our shortcomings in love and life.

(Silence for reflection and self-examination)

God, our heavenly Father, hears the prayers of his children and answers those prayers. Our prayer for forgiveness is answered in the person of Jesus Christ, his Son, who died for our sin that we might have new life in him. To those who believe his Word of truth he gives power to be the people of God. Praise God for his gift of love to us.

Amen.

CALL TO WORSHIP

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:

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

Though you have not seen Christ, you love him;

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

For you are receiving the goal of your faith,

The salvation of our souls.

So with all the joy of Christ's coming, we gather and sing:

HYMN *“Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee”*

#836

GREETING

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord Jesus Christ, you came to earth to share the joy of heaven. Help us to share the joyful news about your birth with all those we meet. Fill us with gladness as we taste and see that you are good.

May the sweetness of your words of promise and hope and salvation energize us for living in your name and according to your will. Grant us opportunities to share joy in our baking, hosting, gathering and eating together as brothers and sisters in the faith. Open our eyes to the plights of those who are suffering and in pain that we might reach out to them with your happy news of new life through your birth, life, death and resurrection. Remind us all that no trouble on earth can ever separate us from you. Amen.

SHARING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

WELCOME THE CHILDREN “*He Came Down*” Tune #253

**He came down that we may have joy;
He came down that we may have joy;
He came down that we may have joy;
Hallelujah forevermore.**

CHILDREN’S MESSAGE

SCRIPTURE READING

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter of Jerusalem! The Lord has taken away the judgments against you; he has cleared away your enemies. The King of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall never again fear evil. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: “Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak. The Lord your God is in your midst, a mighty one who will save; he will rejoice over you with gladness; he will quiet you by his love; he will exult over you with loud singing. I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival, so that you will

no longer suffer reproach. Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you in, at the time when I gather you together; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes,” says the Lord..

SCRIPTURE READING

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, rejoice. Let your reasonableness be known to everyone. The Lord is at hand; do not be anxious about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 1:39-46

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me? For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.” And Mary said, “My soul magnifies the Lord.”

The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God.

SERMON “*From Sharing Cookies to Sharing Joy*”

HYMN OF THE DAY “*My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness*”

#251 vs. 1-3

APOSTLES CREED

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit,
and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried.**

He descended into hell.

On the third day he rose again;

He ascended into heaven,

and is seated at the right hand of the Father,

He will come again to judge the living and the dead.

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.**

Amen

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

O Joy of the world, **Let us rejoice in you.**

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *“We Give Thee but Thine Own”* #686 vs 1

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

THE LORD’S PRAYER

COMMUNION DISTRIBUTION

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

BENEDICTION

SENDING HYMN *“Joy to the World”* #267 vs 3&4

DISMISSAL

Be present as you go in peace to spread the joy of our Savior's birth.

Thanks be to God!

From Sundays and Seasons.com Copyright 2017 Augsburg Fortress. All rights reserved. Reprinted by permission under Augsburg Fortress Liturgies Annual License #38461. New Revised Standard Version Bible, copyright 1989, Division of Christian Education of the National Council of the churches of Christ in the United States of America. Used by permission. All rights reserved.



A huge resounding 'THANK YOU!' goes out to everyone who has offered their help in the last week! People have called, emailed, stopped in, brought donations of food and personal hygiene items, offered up bedrooms in their homes, offered space and care for animals, and most of all, offered up their prayers. The out-pouring of love, support, and generosity was truly incredible. We have an amazing community full of amazing people! Thank you, thank you!



SERVING TODAY:

Greeters/ Ushers – Paul and Laurel Reynolds

Reader – Paul Reynolds

Music – Karen Lescarbourea

Communion Preparation/Assistant – Paul and Laurel Reynolds and Joy Neugebauer

Fellowship Servers – Kevin and Luanne Vining

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (9:30 morning worship):

Greeters/ Ushers – Stan and Joy Neugebauer

Reader – Karen Lescarbourea

Music – Carla Oerter

Fellowship Servers – Joy Neugebauer

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (4:00pm Christmas Eve Service):

Greeters/ Ushers – Bill and Tammy Dennert

Reader – Chic Schneekloth

Music – Peg Tesch and Conni Virtue

Communion Preparation/Assistant – Bill and Tammy Dennert

SERVING NEXT SUNDAY (7:00pm Christmas Eve Service):

Greeters/ Ushers – Kevin and Luanne Vining

Reader – Nancy Schultes

Music – Marie Kennedy

Communion Preparation– Kevin and Luanne Vining

Communion Assistant– Nancy Schultes



WELCOME to our worship service

If you would like to be added to our church mailing list or have other information you would like us to know, please fill out an information card located with the hymnals.

Today, December 17

9:30am – Worship/Communion

Fellowship follows

11:00am – Council Meeting

Monday, December 18

7:00am and 8:30am – Advent Bible Study “Wrap in Love”

Tuesday, December 19

5:30pm – Advent Bible Study “Wrap in Love”

Wednesday, December 20th

5:15pm – D.O.G. Night (The ‘Birthday Party for Jesus’ program has been postponed until January)

Thursday, December 21st

3:00-5:00 – Hermosa/Fairburn Community Food Bank is open

Sunday, December 24th

9:30am – Worship/Fellowship follows

4:00pm – Christmas Eve Service

7:00pm – Christmas Eve Service

Monday, December 25th

Christmas Day 12:00pm – Free Community Christmas Dinner at OSL



Praying for one another is vital to our community of faith and part of being a member of the priesthood of all believers. If you or a family member wishes to be included in this printed prayer list, please contact Josie in the church office.



We pray for the comfort and strength for those who have recently lost loved ones, especially the friends and family of **Leo Hundtoft, Mary Harkin, Dell Mulford, Diane “Mouse” Scully and Anne** (Adare’s sister.)



We pray for the health and healing of those ill or hospitalized and their caregivers, including **Baby Darius** (son of Dakota and Blake Hunsaker), **Gus Erickson** (friend of Pastor Deb.)



We pray for all those in special circumstances including: **all those effected by The Legion Lake Fire, including all those that had to evacuate their homes, the firefighters, road crews, and pilots.**



We pray for those with ongoing concerns: **Jon and Maryanna Hall, Talon Gibson** (Tenaya Gibson’s son), **Kelly Edwards, Glenyce** (Carla’s cousin) **Dennis Hempler** (Dixie Clark’s brother), **Heidi** (Hunsaker’s niece), and **Beverly Conrad** (Peg’s sister).



Mission of the Month

Talon Gibson

Talon Gibson, a 12 year old from Hermosa, has recently been diagnosed with Neurological Lyme Disease. Talon's symptoms have become so debilitating that he can no longer attend school or participate in sports. There is currently no cure for Lyme. Treatment to keep infection at bay is extremely expensive, and insurance will not cover most of the treatments. Our Mission of the Month for December will help with the expenses, estimated to be well over \$200,000, to allow Talon to continue receiving treatments.

(Please write checks to Our Savior's with "Mission" in the memo line.)

To read more about the disease, and see updates on Talon's journey, go to:
gofundme.com/talongibson.



A young girl was asked what she learned at "At Afternoon in Bethlehem." She said she learned that Jesus had two Daddies, Joseph and God. And Jesus' mommy is Suzan. And in the stable there was a donkey, a sheep, and a black poodle. And Joseph said the animals were stinky, but she didn't smell anything bad.



Sharing the good news, and providing ministry can happen anywhere...and it's contagious. If you see or hear of any "ministry moments" when you are out in the community, or with others, please email us so we can share the story as well.

Pastor Deb: pastordeb@oslhermosa.com
Josie: osl@mt-rushmore.net