



Third Sunday of Advent

December 11, 2022

9:30 am

*The Gospel is nothing less than
laughter and joy!*

Martin Luther

Gethsemane Lutheran Church

11560 SE Market St, Portland, OR 97216

glcportland.org | (503) 256-1835

<https://www.facebook.com/gethsemaneportland>

Synod Authorized Lay Minister: Dick Bemrose

Accompanist: Brooke Benfield

Worship: Gloria Kelsay, Brenna Meyer, Jay Rector, Kim Stoffregen

GATHERING

PRELUDE

Let us be in the spirit of worship together.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to worship! For the safety of our community, we ask that you sign in. Our worship service is broadcast live on Zoom and Facebook. We are now serving communion at the altar. If you wish to continue taking it at your seat, pick a kit up in the narthex or see an usher.

*** = Please stand as you are able.**

*GETHSEMANE VISION & MISSION

We are forgiven and called by God to proclaim the Good News of Christ. With the guidance of the Holy Spirit, our mission is to serve both the physical and spiritual needs of all people in our changing society. We welcome all races, abilities, genders, and sexual orientations.

*ADVENT LITANY

God of hope, who brought love into this world,

Be the love that dwells between us.

God of hope, who brought peace into this world,

Be the peace that dwells between us.

God of hope, who brought joy into this world,

Be the joy that dwells between us.

God of hope, the one who accompanies us on the journey of life,

Be with us and guide us with your power for renewal and justice always, and particularly during this Advent time. Amen.

*ADVENT HYMN, *He Came Down*, ELW 253 (verses 1, 2, 4)



- 1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
- 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
- 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
- 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have light; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have joy;

Text: Cameroon traditional

Music: HE CAME DOWN, Cameroon traditional

ADVENT CANDLE-LIGHTING PRAYER

Praise to you, O God, who holds our joy and sorrow.
You bring water to parched ground and life out of death.
Bless us as this light grows,
And send sorrow and sighing to flee away.
Give us strength and patience,
Trusting that you are true to your promises.
Transform the lives of all who suffer
With your wonders near at hand.
Amen.

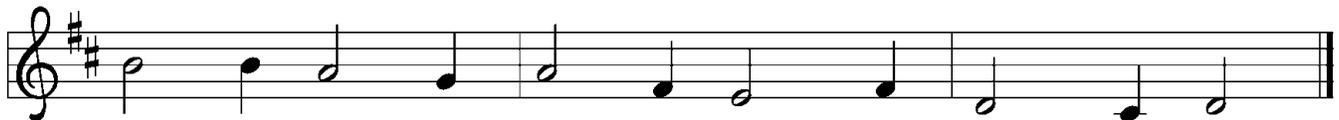
*GATHERING HYMN, *On Jordan's Bank, the Baptist's Cry*, ELW 249



1 On Jor - dan's bank the Bap - tist's cry an - nounc - es
2 Then cleansed be ev - 'ry life from sin; make straight the
3 We hail you as our Sav - ior, Lord, our ref - uge
4 Stretch forth your hand, our health re - store, and make us
5 All praise to you, e - ter - nal Son, whose ad - vent



that the Lord is nigh; a - wake and heark - en,
way for God with - in, and let us all our
and our great re - ward; with - out your grace we
rise to fall no more; oh, let your face up -
has our free - dom won, whom with the Fa - ther



for he brings glad tid - ings of the King of kings!
hearts pre - pare for Christ to come and en - ter there.
waste a - way like flow'rs that with - er and de - cay.
on us shine and fill the world with love di - vine.
we a - dore, and Ho - ly Spir - it, ev - er - more.

Text: Charles Coffin, 1676–1749; tr. composite

Music: PUER NOBIS, European tune, adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1571–1621

***GREETING**

Blessed be the holy Trinity,
+one God,
who comes to wake us from sleep,
who leads us into the light of grace.
Amen.

***PRAYER OF THE DAY**

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Let us pray,
Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
Amen.

CHILDREN'S BLESSING

Welcome families! We're so glad you are here!

WORD

FIRST READING: Isaiah 35:1-10

A reading from Isaiah.

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus ²it shall blossom abundantly,
and rejoice with joy and singing.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the LORD,
the majesty of our God.

³Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
“Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you.”

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;

⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;

⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

⁸A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God’s people;
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

⁹No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

PSALM: Psalm 146:5-10

⁵Happy are they who have the God of Jacob for their help,
whose hope is in the Lord their God;

⁶**who made heaven and earth, the seas, and all that is in them;
who keeps promises forever;**

⁷who gives justice to those who are oppressed, and food to those who hunger.
The Lord sets the captive free.

⁸**The Lord opens the eyes of the blind; the Lord lifts up those who are bowed
down;**

the Lord loves the righteous. R

⁹The Lord cares for the stranger;
the Lord sustains the orphan and widow, but frustrates the way of the wicked.

¹⁰**The Lord shall reign forever,
your God, O Zion, throughout all generations. Hallelujah! R**

SECOND READING: James 5:7-10

A reading from James.

⁷Be patient, therefore, beloved, until the coming of the Lord. The farmer waits for the precious crop from the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸You also must be patient. Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is near. ⁹Beloved, do not grumble against one another, so that you may not be judged. See, the Judge is standing at the doors! ¹⁰As an example of suffering and patience, beloved, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Word of God, word of life.

Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM: "In the Bleak Midwinter"

*GOSPEL ACCLAMATION



Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia. Al - le - lu - ia.

*GOSPEL: Matthew 11:2-11

The holy gospel according to Matthew.

Glory to you, O Lord.

²When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” ⁴Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

The gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON

*HYMN OF THE DAY, *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*, ELW 836



- 1 Joy - ful, joy - ful we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love!
- 2 All thy works with joy sur - round thee, earth and heav'n re - flect thy rays,
- 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,



Hearts un - fold like flow'rs be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.
stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!



Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the gloom of doubt a - way.
Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flow - 'ry mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our broth - er, all who live in love are thine;



Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
chant - ing bird, and flow - ing foun - tain call us to re - joice in thee.
teach us how to love each oth - er, lift us to the joy di - vine!

Text: Henry van Dyke, 1852–1922

Music: HYMN TO JOY, Ludwig van Beethoven, 1770–1827, adapt.

***NICENE CREED**

**We believe in one God,
the Father, the Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth,
of all that is, seen and unseen.**

**We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,
the only Son of God,
eternally begotten of the Father,
God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God,
begotten, not made,
of one Being with the Father;
through him all things were made.**

For us and for our salvation

**he came down from heaven,
was incarnate of the Holy Spirit and the virgin Mary
and became truly human.**

**For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;
he suffered death and was buried.**

**On the third day he rose again
in accordance with the scriptures;**

**he ascended into heaven
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,
and his kingdom will have no end.**

**We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,*
who with the Father and the Son is worshiped and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.**

We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic church.

We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.

**We look for the resurrection of the dead,
and the life of the world to come. Amen.**

***PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION**

As we prepare for the fullness of Christ's presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope.

Gracious God, we rejoice in the gifts of your Spirit. Equip the global church to magnify your love and peace in every land. We pray for the work of the Lutheran World Federation and ELCA Global Mission. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Abundant God, we rejoice in your creation. Revive lands we have squandered and depleted. Make gardens flourish in cities and neighborhoods. Cleanse polluted air and water so living things may breathe, drink, and praise you. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Righteous God, we rejoice in your justice. End racism and oppression. Deliver all who are unjustly imprisoned or persecuted. Reconcile nations and peoples in conflict. Help us pray for our enemies. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Healing God, we rejoice in your compassion. Comfort any in distress because of worry, illness, or loss, especially those we name now in our hearts and on our lips. Strengthen and protect health care workers, rescue teams, crisis counselors, and all who risk themselves to keep others safe. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Abiding God, we rejoice in your company. Give us calm and patient hearts as we gather with family and friends. Keep us mindful of those for whom this season is not happy. Console the grieving and surround them with loving support. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

Faithful God, we rejoice with Mary, Mother of our Lord, and with all the saints, that your mercy endures for all generations. Look with favor on those who have died and lead us to joyfully sing of your everlasting promises. God, in your mercy,
hear our prayer.

God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you always.

And also with you.

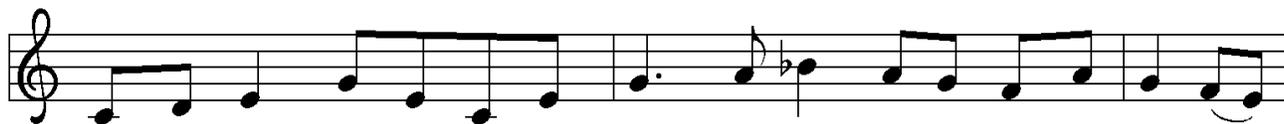
Share a sign of peace with a wave or a fist bump.

OFFERING

Please be seated for a quiet moment of reflection.

Thank you for your generous gifts to sustain the mission and ministry of Gethsemane Lutheran Church. You may place your offering in the offering plate by the baptismal font, give online at www.glcportland.org/give or with Venmo.

*OFFERTORY HYMN: *Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful*, ELW 182



Let the vine - yards be fruit - ful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of



bless - ing. Gath - er a har - vest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be



fed with the bread of life. Gath - er the hopes and the dreams of all; u -



nite them with the prayers we of - fer now. Grace our ta - ble with your



pres - ence, and give us a fore - taste of the feast to come.

*OFFERING PRAYER

Let us pray.

Eternal God,

you make the desert bloom

and send springs of water to thirsty ground.

Receive these simple gifts of bread, wine, and money,

and make us messengers of your mercy and love

for all in need of your healing and justice.

We ask this through Christ our Savior.

Amen.

*THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

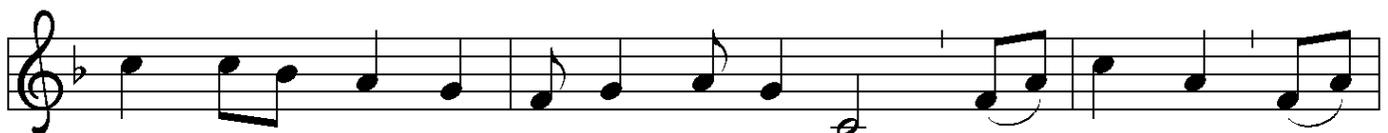
It is right to give our thanks and praise.

P It is our duty and delight . . . we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*HOLY, HOLY, HOLY



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might,



heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho - san - na. Ho -

san-na. Ho - san - na in the high - est. Bless-ed is he who
 comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san - na in the high - est.

***THANKSGIVING AT THE TABLE**

All are welcome to celebrate communion as part of our worship this morning! If you are joining us via livestream, any bread and wine, water or juice may be used. Please hold up the bread and the cup as SALM Dick Bemrose reminds us of the Words of Institution used by the pastor when the elements of Holy Communion are consecrated:

***LORD'S PRAYER**

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us.

**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,
 for ever and ever.**

COMMUNION HYMN, *I Come With Joy*, ELW 482



1 I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en, loved, and
2 I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as all are
3 As Christ breaks bread, and bids us share, each proud di - vi - sion
4 The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but ev - er
5 To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that God has



free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
fed, the new com - mu - ni - ty of love in
ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the



love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ's com - mu - nion bread, in Christ's com - mu - nion bread.
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Text: Brian A. Wren, b. 1936

Music: DOVE OF PEACE, W. Walker, *Southern Harmony*, 1835

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*COMMUNION BLESSING

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
and the gifts of his body and blood
strengthen, keep and unite us,
now and forever.

Amen.

***PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us pray,

Faithful God,

**in this meal you have remembered your mercy,
bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ.**

**As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled,
sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery.**

**Guide us toward your promised future,
coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.**

Amen.

SENDING

***COMMUNITY COVENANT**

In recognition of God's greatest commandment, we will love God with all our heart, mind, and soul, and love our neighbor as ourselves. In that same spirit, we make this covenant:

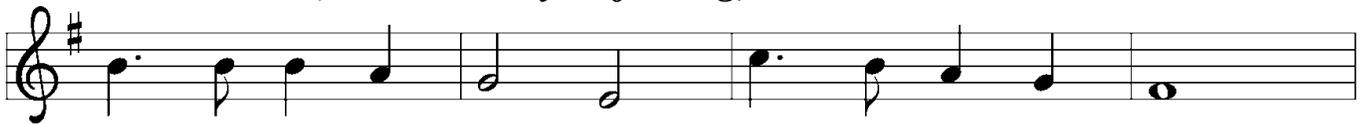
- **We will welcome all people with our hearts, actions, and words.**
- **We will talk *with* each other, not *at* each other.**
- **We will listen to each other, not for fault but for understanding.**
- **We will express our concerns and issues directly with those involved, rather than with others.**
- **We will support our pastor and staff and honor their efforts among us.**
- **We will seek to discover what is best for our Church as a whole, not what may be best for us individually or as a small group.**
- **We will pray with each other and for each other.**

***BLESSING**

God the eternal Word,
who dwells with us in Jesus,
and who holds us in the grace of the Holy Spirit,
✠ bless you now and forever.

Amen.

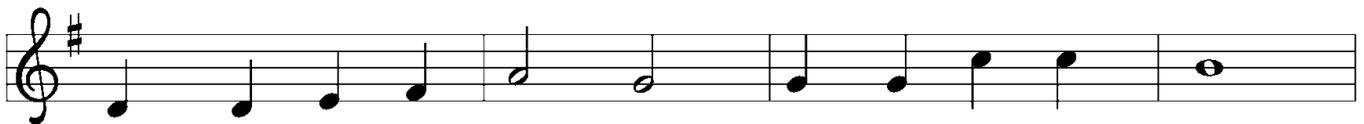
***SENDING HYMN, *On Our Way Rejoicing*, ELW 537**



1 On our way re - joic - ing glad - ly let us go.
2 Un - to God the Fa - ther joy - ful songs we sing;



Christ our Lord has con - quered; van - quished is the foe.
un - to God the Sav - ior thank - ful hearts we bring;



Christ with - out, our safe - ty; Christ with - in, our joy;
un - to God the Spir - it bow we and a - dore,



who, if we be faith - ful, can our hope de - stroy?
on our way re - joic - ing now and ev - er - more.

Refrain



On our way re - joic - ing; as we for - ward move,



hear - ken to our prais - es, O blest God of love!

Text: John S. B. Monsell, 1811–1875, alt.
Music: HERMAS, Frances R. Havergal, 1836–1879

***DISMISSAL**

Go in peace. Christ is near.

Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

Please leave the sanctuary quietly so that those who wish may remain to listen without interruption. Thank you!

Text: John W. Arthur, 1922-1980

Music: Richard W. Hillert, b. 1923

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **We need donations of cookies and bars** as well as **volunteers to help prep food, serve and/or clean-up** for Carol Steele's memorial service on **Saturday, December 17, at 1:00 pm**. Please call or email Gloria Kelsay if you can help provide food or assistance with this event.
- **Pastor Donna Herzfeldt-Kamprath** has limited office hours but can be reached at pastor@glcportland.org or at 971-770-2610. You can also leave a message for her at the office at 503-256-1835 ext. 102 (checked on Wed and Sun only).
- Due to a few recent cases of Covid, for the next couple of weeks **we are strongly recommending masking in our building at all times**.
- Our **Midweek Advent Services** will be at noon in partnership with our cluster churches. This is a great opportunity to visit and worship with our cluster churches. The schedule is:
 - **December 14: 12 noon** at Gethsemane Lutheran (Pastor Yukio Hamada from St. Timothy Lutheran will be presiding)
 - **December 21: 7:00 p.m.** at Covenant Presbyterian (longest night service for Winter Solstice). They may also have a noon service.

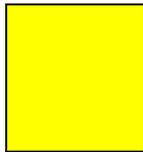


- **Youth Sunday is December 18!**
- **Worship with us on Zoom** at <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/81476436505>. To join by phone, call (253) 215 8782 and enter Meeting ID: 814 7643 6505.
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/gethsemaneportland>.
- **We need Worship Assistants!!** If you have been considering volunteering to serve as a Worship Assistant but were unsure what exactly it would entail or just want more information, Worship has assigned one contact person for each role to make it easier to know exactly who to talk to. Support and mentoring are available. Contact these people for more information:
 - **Altar Guild** - Kim Stoffregen
 - **Cantor** - Jay Rector
 - **Communion Assistant** - Gloria Kelsay
 - **Reader** - Brenna Meyer
 - **Usher** - Laura Britzius
- Gethsemane: we are establishing policies regarding visitors on Sunday mornings and throughout the week. We ask that you all refrain from handing anyone cash on Sunday mornings. We have begun to seed an **“Open Hearts” fund for assisting families and individuals** who may come to the church to ask for assistance. If you’d like to hear more about the evolution of this fund and/or you would like to give to this fund, please contact a council member, a staff member, or a Leaven Land volunteer.
- The **GLC Quilters are looking for helpers** on Thursday mornings to help with quilting. You do not need to know how to sew or quilt. If you would like to have companionship, we would love to have you join us on Thursday mornings from 9-12. If you prefer to work from home, we have kits available that you can pick up. If you have questions, please call Karen Reagan at 503-257-7410.
- Join us for **Bible Study! Tuesdays at 10:00 am** on Zoom: <https://us06web.zoom.us/j/83076176257> Meeting ID: 830 7617 6257, and in the conference room. We’re currently studying the Advent devotional, “About Time”.

Worship Assistants for December

To sign up, go to <https://signup.com/go/bDYAHDh>

Date	Cantor	Reader	Usher/s	Communion Assistant	Altar Guild
Dec. 11	Gloria Kelsay	Mary Curtis	Laura Britzius	Mary Curtis	Kim Stoffregen
Dec. 18	Ernie Butenschoen	Youth		Youth	Sharon Magnuson
Dec. 24 4:00PM	Jay Rector	Jay Rector			Gloria Kelsay
Dec. 24 10:00PM					Sharon Magnuson



= Position needs to be filled

Signup at

<https://signup.com/go/bDYAHDh>



venmo

Scan to donate directly to GLC (@glcpdx)!