# Lord's Day Worship

## A DIVINE SERVICE OF COVENANT RENEWAL

## THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 12, 2021

#### **PRELUDE**

#### PRAYER OF PREPARATION

Quiet our minds, O God, and gladden our hearts; that, as we come together to worship you, we may draw near to your presence and find that this place is indeed the very gate of heaven; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SILENT PREPARATION FOR WORSHIP

# GOD CALLS US

†CALL TO WORSHIP

Oh, that you would rend the heavens and come down! Pastor:

People:

That the mountains might quake at your presence.

To make your name known to your adversaries,

And that the nations might quake at your presence!

When you did awesome things that we did not look for,

You came down, the mountains quaked at your presence.

From of old no one has heard, or perceived by the ear,

No eye has seen a God besides you, who acts for those who wait for him.

†RESPONSE TO GOD'S CALL

#### †PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God, our heavenly Father, we have sinned against you and against our fellow men, in thought and word and deed. We are truly sorry and repent of all our sins. For the sake of your Son, who died for us, forgive us all that is past; and grant that we may serve you in newness of life to the glory of your name.

+Silent Prayer+

All this we ask through him whose coming is certain, whose day draws near; your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord, Amen.

**DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS** 

Pastor: Now lift up your heads, and hear these words of comfort and good news from the Scriptures...

> "Purge me with hyssop, and I shall be clean; wash me, and I shall be whiter than snow."

Our heavenly Father, in his great mercy, has given his only Son to die for you, and for his sake forgives you all your sins; wherefore as Christ's minister and by his authority, I declare to you that all of your sins are forgiven, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen!

†"*Doxology*"...... Selection 733 Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise him, all creatures here below: Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise him above, ye heavenly host, praise Father,

Son, and Holy Ghost: O praise him, O praise him, Alleluia, Alleluia!

#### THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

Our joy is in God and in his Son, Jesus Christ. May the joyful promise of your presence, O God, make us rejoice in the hope of our salvation. O come, O come, Emmanuel!

Since Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, came as a man in the flesh, and is now present with us by his Spirit, we know that he will certainly come again in glory on the Last Day, that we might be saved through him. We thank God for the hope he gives us in Jesus, and for the joy he bestows upon all who trust and wait for his appearance.

### Lighting of the Candle

All: Almighty God, you have made all things to serve you; now prepare the world to receive your rule. Come quickly, Lord Jesus, to end war and oppression, to right all wrongs, to crush the head of Satan, to destroy death itself, to wipe away every tear, to heal every pain, and to make all things new so that your glory will cover the earth as the waters cover the sea. Amen!

†HYMN OF PRAISE

"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"...... Selection 196

## GOD CONVERSES WITH US

OLD TESTAMENT READING...... Exodus 29:1-9, 19-21

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

This is the Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

†GOSPEL READING . . . . . John 4:16-26

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ!

Praise be to you, O Christ!

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 to the dead. 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.

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, Amen. PREACHING OF GOD'S WORD "The Priestly People of God" . . . . . . . Pastor Josh Anderson

# **GOD COMMUNES WITH US**

†COMMUNION HYMN

XXIV. Exposition of the Epistle to the Hebrews

†The Great Thanksgiving

Pastor: Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise!

It is indeed right and good and a joyful thing, always and everywhere, to give thanks unto you, O Lord, Holy Father, Almighty, Everlasting God. Therefore, in union with the saints who have gone before us and along with the whole church on earth, we praise you, joining our voices with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven, who forever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your

All:

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts; heaven and earth are full of your glory. Glory be to you, O

Lord Most High!

INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

Prayer of Preparation & Faith

We do not presume to come to this your table, O merciful Lord, trusting in our own righteousness, but in your steadfast love, which endures forever. We are not worthy so much as to gather up the crumbs under your table. But you are the same Lord, whose character is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore, gracious Father, to partake of the body and blood of your son Jesus Christ, that we may grow into his likeness, and evermore abide in union with him, and he with us. Amen.

Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Bread

Pastor: Alleluia, Christ our Passover has been sacrificed for us:

All: Therefore let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

‡Prayer of Thanksgiving for the Wine

Pastor: Let us confess the mystery of our faith:

All: Christ has died, Christ is risen,

Christ will come again!

# **GOD COMMISSIONS US**

†Prayer of Dedication

All gracious God, who of your infinite love gave your only begotten son, Jesus Christ, to die for our sins and rise again for our justification, and have made us partakers of your divine nature through the gift of the Holy Spirit; accept the fruits of our labors which we now present to you in this offering and also our very selves as we stand before you; and hear us as we pray as your Son taught us: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen!

†Hymn of Praise

†Pastoral Benediction

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his

face toward you and give you peace.

People: Amen!

†Those who are able are invited to stand.

## HEBREWS 10:19-25

[19] Therefore, brothers, since we have confidence to enter the holy places by the blood of Jesus, [20] by the new and living way that he opened for us through the curtain, that is, through his flesh, [21] and since we have a great priest over the house of God, [22] let us draw near with a true heart in full assurance of faith, with our hearts sprinkled clean from an evil conscience and our bodies washed with pure water. [23] Let us hold fast the confession of our hope without wavering, for he who promised is faithful. [24] And let us consider how to stir up one another to love and good works, [25] not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the Day drawing near.

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The Third Sunday in Advent

December 12, 2021