

Big Grove Crow River Grace Parish

P.O. Box 10, Belgrade, MN 56312

320-254-3249

bgcrlutheran@frontiernet.net

December 12, 2021 – Third Sunday of Advent

Welcome in Jesus' name.

We extend a special welcome to guests and visitors.



David Ewart, www.holytextures.com

Interim Lead Pastor Lisa Meshke, pastorlisaanne@gmail.com
Interim Associate Pastor Matthew Garavalia, mattgaravalia@gmail.com
Parish Secretary – Aleisha Terhaar

WELCOME TO WORSHIP

December 12, 2021

Third Sunday of Advent

Prelude/Procession/Bells

Welcome and Announcements

*Confession and Forgiveness:

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who forgives all our sin, whose mercy endures forever.

C: Amen.

P: Almighty God, to whom all hearts are open, all desires known, and from whom no secrets are hid: cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy name, through Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

(Silence for Private Confession)

Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. We confess that we have turned from you and given ourselves into the power of sin. We are truly sorry and humbly repent. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things we have done and things we have failed to do. Turn us again to you, and uphold us by your Spirit, so that we may live and serve you in newness of life through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

P: God, who is rich in mercy, loved us even when we were dead in sin, and made us alive together with Christ. By grace you have been saved. In the name of + Jesus Christ, your sins are forgiven. Almighty God strengthen you with power through the Holy Spirit, that Christ may live in your hearts through faith. **Amen**

*Hymn: "Joy to the World"

ELW #267

1 Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her king;
let ev'ry heart prepare him room
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n and nature sing,
and heav'n, and heav'n and nature sing.

2 Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3 No more let sin and sorrow grow
nor thorns infest the ground;
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

4 He rules the world with truth and grace
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

"Joy to the World" Music by: English Melody
Reprint by permission of CCLI License #2275507

***Apostolic Greeting:**

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

C: And also with you.

***The Prayer of the Day:**

P: Stir up the wills of your faithful people, **Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that, rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Hymn: "My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness"

ELW #251

1 My soul proclaims your greatness, Lord;
I sing my Savior's praise!
You looked upon my lowliness,
and I am full of grace.
Now ev'ry land and ev'ry age
this blessing shall proclaim--
great wonders you have done for me,
and holy is your name.

2 To all who live in holy fear
your mercy ever flows.
With mighty arm you dash the proud,
their scheming hearts expose.
The ruthless you have cast aside,

the lowly throned instead;
the hungry filled with all good things,
the rich sent off unfed.

3 To Israel, your servant blest,
your help is ever sure;
the promise to our parents made
their children will secure.
Sing glory to the Holy One,
give honor to the Word,
and praise the Pow'r of the Most High,
one God, by all adored.

"My Soul Proclaims Your Greatness" Music by: English folk tune Copyright 1995 Augsburg Fortress
Preprint by permission of One License #A-736797

Scripture Reading

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! ¹⁵The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. ¹⁶On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. ¹⁷The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing ¹⁸as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. ¹⁹I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. ²⁰At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; 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.

L: Word of God, Word of Life.

C. Thanks be to God.

Scripture Reading:

Isaiah 12:2-6

Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid, for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation. ³With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

⁴And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, call on his name; make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted. ⁵Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously; let this be known in all the earth. ⁶Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion, for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

L: Word of God, Word of Life

C: Thanks be to God.

Scripture Reading:**Philippians 4:4-7**

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

L: Word of God, Word of Life **C: Thanks be to God.**

Children's Sermon

***Gospel Acclamation:** "Alleluia" Setting 4, page 151

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

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

From Evangelical Lutheran Worship copyright © 2006. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #SB109327.

Holy Gospel:*Luke 3:7-18**

P: The Holy Gospel according to the 3rd Chapter of Luke.

C: Glory to you, O Lord.

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? ⁸Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. ⁹Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." ¹⁰And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" ¹¹In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." ¹²Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" ¹³He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." ¹⁴Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages." ¹⁵As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the

Messiah, ¹⁶John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." ¹⁸So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

P: The Gospel of our Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ.

Sermon

Hymn: "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

ELW #257

1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here
until the Son of God appear.

Refrain:

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to you, O Israel.

2 O come, O Wisdom from on high,
embracing all things far and nigh:
In strength and beauty come and stay;
Teach us your will and guide our way. **Refrain**

3 O come, O come, great Lord of might,
as to your tribes on Sinai's height
in ancient times you gave the law
in cloud, and majesty and awe. **Refrain**

4 O come, O Branch of Jesse's stem,
unto your own and rescue them!
From depths of hell your people save,
and give them victory o'er the grave. **Refrain**

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" Music by: French processional Copyright 1997 Augsburg Fortress
Reprint permission of One License # A-736797

***Apostle's Creed**

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

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come 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

PRAYER LIST:

PLEASE HOLD IN YOUR PRAYERS: **Richard** Hanson, **Gail** Otteson, **Cindy** Torgerson, **Marilyn** Gerhardson, **Eugene** Jensen, **Vicky** Otteson, **Rudean** Keith, **Sig** Lundgren, **Ed** Anderson, **DeWayne** Lien, **Johanna** Orsten, **Randy** Lindahl, **Janet** Raveling, **Calmon** Peterson (Karla Anderson's brother), and all those we name in our hearts, having the confidence that through the power of the Holy Spirit, God knows our needs.

*Peace:

P: The peace of Christ be with you always. **C: And also with you.**

Offering (children may bring offerings forward)

Offertory Hymn: "We Are an Offering" ELW #692

We lift our voices, we lift our hands,
we lift our lives up to you: we are an offering.
Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands,
Lord, use our lives, they are yours: we are an offering.
All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be,
we give to you, we give to you.
We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to you:
We are an offering, we are an offering.

Music by: Dwight Liles From Evangelical Lutheran Worship copyright © 2006. All rights reserved.
Reprinted by permission of Augsburg Fortress under license #SB109327.

Offertory Prayer:

C: God of our waiting and watching, we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace. Amen.

Great Thanksgiving:

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Preface

***Holy, Holy, Holy**

Setting 4, page 153, ELW

***Words of Institution**

***The Lord's Prayer:**

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.

Distribution of Holy Communion

***Communion Blessing**

***Post Communion Prayer**

Blessed Jesus, at this table, you have been for us both host and meal. Now send us forth to extend our tables and to share your gifts until that day when all feast together at your heavenly banquet. **Amen.**

***Benediction:**

P: To God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.

Amen.

***Hymn:** "Soon and Very Soon"

ELW #439

1 Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
we are goin' to see the King!

2 No more cryin' there we are goin' to see the King,
No more cryin' there we are goin' to see the King,

No more cryin' there we are goin' to see the King,
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
we are goin' to see the King!

3 No more dyin' there we are goin' to see the King,
No more dyin' there we are goin' to see the King,
No more dyin' there we are goin' to see the King,
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
we are goin' to see the King!

4 Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
Soon and very soon we are goin' to see the King,
Hallelujah, Hallelujah,
we're are goin' to see the King!

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

"Soon and Very Soon" Music by: Andrae Crouch Copyright 1976 Bud John Songs, Inc.
Reprint by permission of CCLI License #2275507

***Dismissal:**

P: Go in peace. Christ is near.

C: Thanks be to God.