



ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

OUR MISSION:

TO PROCLAIM THE GOSPEL

TO MAKE DISCIPLES

TO EMBODY GOD'S LOVE

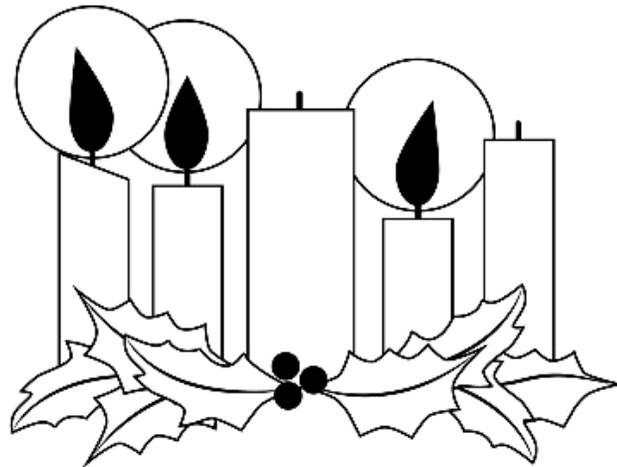
INTRODUCTION

Forerunners and messengers advance the advent of our God. While John the baptizer's voice in the wilderness may be the principal focus of the day, Malachi's prophecy could as easily herald the coming Lord Jesus as forerunner of the Lord of hosts. Finally, all the baptized are called to participate in the sharing of the gospel. In so doing we prepare the way for the coming of the Lord and assist all flesh in capturing a vision of the "salvation of God."

DECEMBER 16, 2018 AT 10:30 A.M.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

TRADITIONAL SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION



THIRD SUNDAY
OF
Advent



Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.

ST. MARK'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10:30 A.M.

DECEMBER 16, 2018

**Please stand if able*

P: Pastor; A: Assisting Minister; C: Congregation

(ELW—Red Book)

GATHERING

- PRELUDE** "O Come, O Come Emmanuel" Emily Schuttenberg
- WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS** Rev. Gary Haddock
- *LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (v.3) **ELW #257**
- *CONFESSION & FORGIVENESS** *ELW* p. 116-118
- *SHARING THE PEACE** P: The peace of the Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**
- *GATHERING HYMN** "Give to Our God Immortal Praise!" **ELW #848**
- *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.
- *KYRIE** "In peace, let us pray to the Lord..." *ELW* p. 120-121
- *PRAYER OF THE DAY**
P: Stir up our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way of your only Son. By his coming give to all the people of the world knowledge of your salvation; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **C: Amen.**

WORD

- CHILDREN'S SERMON** Rev. Gary Haddock
- LESSONS** Malachi 3:1-4; Luke 1:68-79; Philippians 1:3-11 Zach Gardner
- *HOLY GOSPEL ACCLAMATION** "Alleluia, Alleluia ..." *ELW* p. 124
- *GOSPEL READING** P: The Holy Gospel, according to St. Luke. **C: Glory to you, O Lord** Luke 3:1-6
P: The Gospel of the Lord. **C: Praise to you, O Christ.**
- SERMON** Rev. Gary Haddock
- *HYMN OF THE DAY** "Prepare the Royal Highway" **ELW #264**
- *APOSTLES' CREED** *ELW* p. 127
- *INTERCESSORY PRAYER** A: Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.** Zach Gardner

MEAL

- THE OFFERING / OFFERTORY** "Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne" Chancel Choir
- *OFFERING PRESENTATION/RESPONSE** "Let the Vineyards Be Fruitful" *ELW* #182
Let the vineyards be fruitful, Lord, and fill to the brim our cup of blessing. Gather a harvest from the seeds that were sown, that we may be fed with the bread of life. Gather the hopes and the dreams of all; unite them with the prayers we offer now. Grace our table with your presence, and give us a foretaste of the feast to come.



***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Zach Gardner

A: God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. **C: Amen.**

***THE EUCHARISTIC PRAYER V**

ELW p. 65-66

***THE LORD’S PRAYER**

P: Lord, teach us to pray . . .

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

Holy Communion Invitation: We welcome all who are baptized to the Sacrament of Holy Communion. Communion is served by Intinction. You will be given a wafer, which you then dip into the chalice of wine. If unable to come forward, stand where you are, and you will be served there. Children who are baptized are welcome to commune.

AGNUS DEI (LAMB OF GOD)

ELW p. 135

Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us. Lamb of God, you take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

DISTRIBUTION HYMN

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”

ELW #490

***POST COMMUNION BLESSING**

After all have returned to their places, the congregation stands and the presiding minister says these words:

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen you and keep you in His grace. **C: Amen.**

***POST COMMUNION PRAYER**

Zach Gardner

Holy One, we give you thanks that in this bread and cup we have feasted again on your endless love. Let that love overflow more and more in our lives, that we may be messengers to prepare your way, harvesters of justice and righteousness, and bearers of your eternal Word, our Savior Jesus Christ. **C: Amen.**

SENDING

***BLESSING**

P: The Lord bless you and keep you ... **C: Amen.**

***SENDING HYMN**

“Oh, for a Thousand Tongues to Sing”

ELW #886

***DISMISSAL**

P: Go in peace. The Spirit sends us forth to serve. **C: Thanks be to God.**

POSTLUDE

“Moderato in G”

Rinck

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FLOWERS ON THE ALTAR ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD and in celebration of Bob and Camille Patrick’s 30th wedding anniversary on December 17.

FLOWERS ON THE TABLE ARE GIVEN TO THE GLORY OF GOD and in memory of our sisters, Linda Sigmon and Dixie Kaszer, by Jane Setzer, Elaine Simmons, and Celia Hollar.

LITURGY -THE WORK OF THE PEOPLE

Presiding Pastor: Rev. Gary Haddock

Assisting Minister: Zach Gardner

Organist: Emily Schuttenberg

Communion Assistants: Hal Sigmon, Nick Setzer

Deacons: Tiffany Caudill, Tanya Stephenson

Altar Guild: Dotty & Ken Isenhour

Tabulators: Dotty Isenhour, Chris Cloninger, Vanessa Arndt

Tech: Carol Schaefer, Camille Patrick, Tamarah Hefner, Randy Sherrill, Terry Hefner, Tim Sigmon, Barry Bumgarner

St. Mark’s Lutheran Church, P.O. Box 550, 3216 W. Main Street, Claremont, NC 28610 (828-459-2161)

Office Hours: Monday-Thursday, 8:30-4pm; Friday, 8:30-12:30pm (lisa@smarklc.org or deanna@smarklc.org)

MALACHI 3:1-4

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the Lord of hosts. But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the Lord in righteousness. Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the Lord as in the days of old and as in former years.

LUKE 1:68-79

"Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them. He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David, as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us. Thus, he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant, the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear, in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins. By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."

PHILIPPIANS 1:3-11

I thank my God every time I remember you, constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

LUKE 3:1-6

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

