

Peace Lutheran Church

“Peace Through Christ”

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THE THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

December 13, 2020

As We Gather “Joy to the world!” is an often-echoed refrain in these days of preparation and celebration before Christmas. But where is true joy to be found? It is found in Christ alone. The coming of Christ as the Savior of the world is the ultimate source of joy for our lives, no matter how we might be feeling during the weeks of the holiday season. True joy is not just for one time of year or for one time of our lives. The happiness that we feel in our hearts at any given moment may come and go, but the joy that is found in Jesus lasts for all of our lives and beyond—into the endless celebration in God’s eternal kingdom.



RINGING OF THE BELL

PRELUDE HAND BELLS

WELCOME

+ PREPARATION +

OPENING HYMN

“Hark the Glad Sound”



1 Hark the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, The Sav - ior
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, In Sa - tan's
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, The bleed - ing
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of Peace, Thy wel - come



prom - ised long; Let ev - 'ry heart pre - pare a
bond - age held. The gates of brass be - fore Him
soul to cure, And with the trea - sures of His
shall pro - claim, And heav'n's e - ter - nal arch - es



throne And ev - 'ry voice a song.
burst, The i - ron fet - ters yield.
grace To en - rich the hum - ble poor.
ring With Thy be - lov - ed name.

INVOCATION and OPENING VERSES

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: I cry to You, O Lord;

People: in the morning my prayer comes before You.

Psalm 88:13

Pastor: Restore to me the joy of Your salvation,

People: and uphold me with a willing spirit. *Psalm 51:12*

Pastor: My mouth is filled with Your praise,

People: and with Your glory all the day. *Psalm 71:8*

Pastor: Every day I will bless You

People: and praise Your name forever and ever.

Psalm 145:2

Pastor: By awesome deeds You answer us with righteousness,

**People: O God of our salvation, the hope of all the ends of the earth
and of the farthest seas.** *Psalm 65:5*

Pastor: Bless the Lord, O my soul;

People: and all that is within me, bless His holy name!

Psalm 103:1

Pastor: He redeems your life from the pit

People: and crowns you with steadfast love and mercy.

Psalm 103:4

Pastor: Hear my prayer, O Lord;

People: let my cry come to You. *Psalm 102:1*

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: O God our Father, since You have set forth the way of life for us in Your beloved Son, we confess with shame our slowness to learn of Him, our failure to follow Him, and our reluctance to bear the cross.

People: Have mercy on us and forgive us, O Lord.

Pastor: Forgive us for the poverty of our worship, and our neglect of the Means of Grace, our hesitating witness for Christ, our evasion of responsibility in Your service, and our imperfect stewardship of Your gifts.

People: Have mercy on us and forgive us, O God.

Pastor: Forgive us that so little of Your love has reached others through us, that we have been thoughtless in our judgments, hasty in condemnation, grudging in forgiveness, slow to seek reconciliation, and unwilling to help our neighbors as we ought.

People: Have mercy on us, O God, according to Your steadfast love. Create in us clean hearts, O God, and put a new and right spirit within us.

Pastor: God be merciful to you and strengthen your faith. In the mercy of almighty God, Jesus Christ was given to die for us, and for His sake God forgives us all our sins. To those who believe in Jesus Christ He gives the power to become the children of God and bestows on them the Holy Spirit. May the Lord, who has begun this good work in us, bring it to completion in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ.

People: Amen.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

I O come, O come, Em-man-u-el, And ran-som cap-tive
Is-ra-el, That mourns in lone-ly ex-ile here
Refrain
Un-til the Son of God ap-pear. Re-joice! Re-joice!
Em-man-u-el Shall come to thee, O Is-ra-el!

6 O come, Thou Dayspring from on high, And cheer us by Thy drawing nigh;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, And death's dark shadows put to flight. Refrain

KYRIE

Pastor: In peace let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God,
and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us
pray to the Lord.

People: Lord, have mercy.

Pastor: Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.

People: Amen.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

Pastor: Let us pray.

Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come to us with Your presence. Restore to us the joy of Your salvation and grant us a deep and abiding peace for all of our days. By the working of the Holy Spirit, lead us to share the joy that is ours without hesitation. Keep us in true faith until the coming of Your glorious kingdom, where You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

People: Amen.

+THE WORD OF GOD+

OLD TESTAMENTIsaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

(The prophet is anointed to preach good news.)

(After the Reading)

Reader: This is the Word of our Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

EPISTLE 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

(Be joyful and give thanks in all circumstances.)

(After the Reading)

Reader: This is the Word of our Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

HANDBELL CHOIR "I Wonder As I Wander"

HOLY GOSPEL. John 1:6-8, 19-28

(Make straight the way of the Lord.)

Pastor : The Holy Gospel according to St. John, the 1st chapter.

People: Glory to You, O Lord!

Pastor: This is the Gospel of our Lord

People: Praise to You, O Christ!

HYMN OF THE DAY "O Morning Star, How Fair and Bright"



1 O Morn - ing Star, how fair and bright! You shine with God's
2 Come, heav'n - ly Bride - groom, Light di - vine, And deep with - in
3 Lord, when You look on us in love, At once there falls



own truth and light, A - glow with grace and mer - cy!
our hearts now shine; There light a flame un - dy - ing!
from God a - bove A ray of pur - est plea - sure.



Of Ja - cob's race, King Da - vid's son, Our Lord and mas -
In Your one bod - y let us be As liv - ing branch -
Your Word and Spir - it, flesh and blood Re - fresh our souls



ter, You have won Our hearts to serve You on - ly!
es of a tree, Your life our lives sup - ply - ing.
with heav'n - ly food. You are our dear - est trea - sure!



Low - ly, ho - ly! Great and glo - rious, All vic - to - rious,
Now, though dai - ly Earth's deep sad - ness May per - plex us
Let Your mer - cy Warm and cheer us! O draw near us!



Rich in bless - ing! Rule and might o'er all pos - sess - ing!
And dis - tress us, Yet with heav'n - ly joy You bless us.
For You teach us God's own love through You has reached us.

- 6 What joy to know, when life is past, The Lord we love is first and last,
The end and the beginning! He will one day, oh, glorious grace,
Transport us to that happy place Beyond all tears and sinning!
Amen! Amen! Come, Lord Jesus! Crown of gladness!
We are yearning For the day of Your returning!

MESSAGE

The Family Tree That Makes Families Free
Is Rooted In God's Love:
Part Three: Jesus, Son of Scandal
Matthew 1:1,3,5,6
Deacon Bob Hutchison

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *Second Article of the Apostles' Creed*

Pastor: In the second article of the Apostles' Creed, our confession is focused on Jesus, whose coming we await. We speak the words of the creed, followed by the "What does this mean?" section from the Small Catechism of Dr. Martin Luther.

People: 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 into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

Pastor: What does this mean?

People: I believe that Jesus Christ, true God, begotten of the Father from all eternity, and also true man, born of the virgin Mary, is my Lord, who has redeemed me, a lost and condemned person, purchased and won me from all sins, from death, and from the power of the devil; not with gold or silver, but with His holy, precious blood and with His innocent suffering and death, that I may be His own and live under Him in His kingdom and serve Him in everlasting righteousness, innocence, and blessedness, just as He is risen from the dead, lives and reigns to all eternity.

This is most certainly true.

OFFERING *(will be received as you leave)*

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: 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.

BENEDICTION

Pastor: The Lord bless you and keep you. The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious onto You. The Lord look upon You with favor and + give you His peace.

People: Amen.

CLOSING HYMN “Go, My Children, with My Blessing”



1 Go, My chil-dren, with My bless - ing, Nev - er a - lone.
2 Go, My chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.
3 Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour - ished, Clos - er to Me;
4 I the Lord will bless and keep you And give you peace;



Wak - ing, sleep - ing, I am with you; You are My own. In My
Here you learned how much I love you, What I can cure. Here you
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, Joy - ful and free. Here My
I the Lord will smile up - on you And give you peace: I the



love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you Mine for - ev - er.
heard My dear Son's sto - ry; Here you touched Him, saw His glo - ry.
Spir - it's pow - er filled you; Here His ten - der com - fort stilled you.
Lord will be your Fa - ther, Sav - ior, Com - fort - er, and Broth - er.



Go, My chil-dren, with My bless - ing— You are My own.
Go, My chil-dren, sins for - giv - en, At peace and pure.
Go, My chil-dren, fed and nour - ished, Joy - ful and free.
Go, My chil-dren; I will keep you And give you peace.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

POSTLUDE

Attendance 12/6/20 72

Altar Flowers: Given to the glory of God by Jim & Lily Mainland in celebration of their 40th wedding anniversary, and by David Zinger in memory of Richard Zinger.

THIS WEEK AT PEACE DECEMBER 13, 2020

Today: 10:30 a.m. Traditional Service outside
1:30 a.m. New Life Church

Sunday: 10:30 a.m. Traditional Services outside
1:30 a.m. New Life Church

ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF DECEMBER 13, 2020

JOIN A BIBLE STUDY: All Bible Study groups have suspended until after the first of the year.

Women's Bible Study with a study on the book of Revelation. Please contact Connie Morris (805)987-5116 to join or for more information.

Men's Bible Study This study, "Bible Symbols", meets via Zoom Tuesday mornings at 8:30. Call Dave Hutter (805)386-7007 to join or for more information. Please pick up your copy of the study in the church office.

LifeLight will resume meeting with Zoom classes after the new year: Contact Blaine or Diana Wanke (805)482-7524 if you would like to join this study.

THE FOOD BANK at St. Columba's Episcopal Church's has remained opened during the pandemic and has had a large increase in demand. The church office is open from 9 to 12 Monday through Friday. They give out food every 2nd and 4th Thursday from 9-10am for seniors and 5-6 pm for families. Below is a list of items most needed, but any nonperishable, non-expired donation is appreciated. Please take your donation directly to St. Columba's. Most needed items: Cereal, shelf stable milk, canned vegetables, canned meats, beans, rice, and pasta.

Thank you! Social Concerns

PORTALS OF PRAYER for January - March are now available for you to pick up either at the check-in table or in the church office during the week.

PRAYER CHAIN: If you have a prayer request please call Sandi Stepp at: 805-625-0479 or e-mail footstepps@verizon.net.

THE HANDBELL CHOIR has resumed rehearsals. If you are interested in joining please contact Linda LaJeunesse 805-443-3527.

THE 2021 FLOWER CHART is posted on the white board as you come to the check-in station. Please bring a pen to sign up for the Sunday(s) of your choice. (After signing-up, please remember to use the hand sanitizer on the check-in table.) Two signups are available for each Sunday. The arrangements are \$35.00 each, and the check or money can be placed in the offering plate. Please note on the check or on the envelope that it is designated for "Flowers". Following the 11:00 service, you may take your arrangement home.



This year we are again collecting new **socks** and **gloves** for the homeless. We can use men's, women's and children's. A tub will be out during the Sunday services, or they can be taken to the office. Thank you for your help.

Remember in Your Prayers

For health and healing: Edith Anderson, Lili Baehr, Terry Breckinridge, Crystal (Phil Deck's niece), Marshall Denninger, Bruce Fraser, Father of Gail Goesch, Beverly Gandy, Ken Haugrud, Damon Hermann (friend of Greg Olewiler), John Hollenbeck (friend of Eunice Harter), Vicki Hutter, Karen Johnson, Dale Larson, Dawn Logan (Pat Massey's niece), Mrs. Mai, (friend of Greg Olewiler), Scott McComas, Ryan Scott Morrison, Ken Nipstad, Gene O'Neal, Jim Pedersen, Joanne Riccardi (friend of Pat Massey), Shane Shelton (relative of Melissa Hamilton), Llewyn Rae Spencer (infant grandson of Gary & Char Spencer) and his parents, Gertrude Stenke, Leslie Stenke, Bev Toro, Jon Volpei (Connie Morris' son), Carol Yung, Sue Zinger.

Pray for all military men and women especially: Jared Bautista, Jacob Chiles, Andrew Geib, Daniel Gross, Michael Hanson, Brian Miller, Kevin Palos, Kevin Schleicher, Stephen Volpei, Amy Waddell, Lucas Wentlandt. Also remember their families in your prayers.

Please keep the nation and all those in authority in your prayers, along with front line healthcare workers. We will get through this together, because we never go through anything alone.

SOCIAL CONCERNS MINISTRY is joining with our Peace Preschool in the 6th Annual Happy Birthday, Mason Toy Drive that benefits foster children in Ventura County. We are trying to collect the majority of the toys by 2nd week of December for the "Toy Store" event. This is where foster parents will come to pick-up toys for their foster children free of charge. The collection will continue through December 20th and gifts will be dropped off to families still in need. The goal is to provide a gift for every foster child in the county. Please see the attached Toy and Gift Suggestion List.

♥ 0—3 Years ♥	♥ 4—7 Years ♥	♥ 8—12 Years ♥	♥ Teens ♥
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Activity blocks • Baby doll • Bath toys • Books, cloth or board • Building toys • Chunky plastic toys • Matching game • Musical toy / instrument • Plastic tool set • Puppet • Push/pull riding toy • Rocking horse • Sensory / sorting /stacking toys • Toddler dishes / play food • Toddler shopping cart • Toy people • Toy car / truck • Train set • Tricycle • Wagon • Wood puzzle 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Art / craft supplies • Baby doll • Athletic equipment / balls • Bike / helmet • Board game • Books • Card game • Child's watch • Construction toys • Dishes / cookware / play food • Dollhouse / furnishings • Matching game • Musical toy / instrument • Remote control car • Roller skates / blades / helmet • Scooter / helmet • Toy car / truck • Wrist / knee / elbow pads • Educational tablets 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cameras • Aquarium • Art / craft supplies • Athletic equipment / balls • Basic erector set • Beginner sewing machine • Bike / helmet • Board game • Books • Construction toys • Gym / sports bag • Models—car, airplane, etc. • Remote control car • Roller skates / blades / helmet • Science kits • Scooter / helmet • Wrist / knee / elbow pads • Action figures • Musical instruments • Electronic toys 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Cameras • Art / craft supplies • Athletic equipment / balls • Bike / helmet • Books / journal • Clock / Clock radio • Hair appliances • Gym / sports bag • Electric razor • Jewelry / jewelry box • Make up case / kit / mirror • Movie passes • Photo album / scrapbook • Pillow / body pillow / sheets • Skateboard / helmet • Wallet / coin purse / purse • Watch • Musical instruments • Electronic toys • Ear buds / headphones • Backpacks • Bluetooth speaker

All is Bright!

— A CONCORDIA CHRISTMAS —

**CONCORDIA'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS CONCERTS
ARE AIRING ON YOUR LOCAL PBS STATION!**

For the first time, Concordia University Irvine will air its annual Christmas concerts as a made-for-TV special. The hour-long broadcast *All is Bright—A Concordia Christmas* will air on the following dates and stations:

- Tuesday, December 22, 8 pm on PBS SoCal
- Thursday, December 24, 10 pm on PBS SoCal
- Friday, December 25, 11 am on KCET
- Friday, December 25, 8 pm on PBS SoCal

The Christmas special features music produced in Concordia's recording studios, as well as footage from the 2018 Concordia Christmas concert at Segerstrom Hall. The narrated special includes arrangements of favorite Christmas carols performed by Concordia's choirs, orchestra, handbells, and student soloists, as well as the Americana, jazz, and commercial music ensembles.

We invite you to join us for a festive celebration that brings light, hope, and joy to the Christmas season!