

St. Luke Lutheran Church
Albuquerque, New Mexico
Third Weekend in Advent
Saturday, December 14th, 2024, 5:00 PM
(in person & e-worship)



***"Bear the good fruits of repentance
that God asks for . . . "***

St Luke Lutheran Church
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Find our Livestream online, Saturdays, 5 pm MDT at:
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/stlukeabq/>

WELCOME! ¡BIENVENIDOS!

We welcome you to worship here at St. Luke Lutheran Church. We are so glad you have joined us to gather around the story of Jesus in Word and Meal. If you are visiting, searching for a community, searching for faith, or looking for a new church home, we invite you to sign the Guest Book, complete the goldenrod connections page and give us the opportunity to welcome you. If you are in need of assistance or have questions of any kind, please speak with an usher, a Staff members, a Council member or Pastor Brad our Interim Pastor. In Advent, join us on Wednesdays, too. This is Christ's Church. There is a place for you here.

Welcome to the new Advent Season, a blue season of expectation and hope that runs backwards through time. Advent celebrates the coming of Jesus Christ, the Messiah in human time, A.D. Bethlehem Year 0. The Advent runs backwards, from end-times themes heard today then to 2 Sundays in which we hear about John the Baptist's forewarning and preparation for the coming of the Messiah. Then we learn of Mary's pregnancy and hear her powerful Magnificat Praises. Then we all arrive at Christmas Eve. We journey from end-times (future) to present to past. The origin of the word "advent" is from the Latin word *adventus* which simply translates "coming" or "arrival". Not only is the Christian meaning for preparation and celebration of the coming of Jesus Christ, his birth at Christmas, but also a time to reflect on our new life *in* Jesus Christ as our Savior, and a time to wonder and anticipate Jesus' returning again. The Epistles unlock the Church's hope. The Old Testament readings, Sundays and Midweek, unlock the myriad of expectations and hopes for a Messiah, a just king, a Prophet like Moses, and a Priest who can deal with human sins. The Gospels announce the fulfillment of all the "hopes and dreams of all the years" in Jesus the Messiah born in Bethlehem.



Today is the Third Sunday in the Advent season. A rose-colored candle, lighted today among the blue candles, represents St. John the Baptist's solemn preaching and ministry of baptizing sinners. We hear the gospel story. We hear John's Voice. We need to listen to John, that principal Voice of Advent's preparations. Collectively, we are vipers, snakes. We confess our sins. We are the fallen children of Adam and Eve, boasting in our self-righteousness and identity, not bearing the fruitful deeds of right living God asks for, not helping to heal the world, not sharing our food and clothing and our possessions, content with inequality and injustice, not working for living wages. But there is more to say. An announcement greets our ears. One who is mightier than John, or each of us dressed in our self-righteousness, is coming. Hidden, he has already come. On the Tree of the Cross, he has shared the lot of the outcasts. He joins us as we plead for justice and peace. And in his Holy Spirit, he gives us confidence and peace, and the end of fears and anxieties. The Holy One for whom we wait has come and is already with us here in this room, forgiving and restoring us, rejoicing over us, pouring into our hearts throughout the generations a thankfulness and response of generosity and gratitude. With joy this Sunday, in word and Meal, we experience Emmanuel coming among us. Rejoicing in the good news of our salvation in the Gospel, let us, again, "bear the fruits of repentance" that John calls forth in us.

Preparation to receive HOLY COMMUNION: At St. Luke, all Christians who desire to receive Christ's presence and blessing, in, with and under the forms of bread and wine in the Holy Communion Meal are welcome to do so, regardless of your age or denomination. If you or your children are not yet baptized into the Christian faith, please contact the pastor who would love to help you receive this sacrament of grace and belonging. As Lutheran Christians, we trust and teach what Martin Luther wrote in his Small Catechism: "These [Biblical] words, (*given for you*) and (*shed for you for the forgiveness of sins*) when accompanied by the physical eating and drinking, are the essential thing in the sacrament, and whoever believes these very words has what they declare and state, namely, 'forgiveness of sins, new life, and salvation.'" By hearing these words of our Lord Jesus Christ spoken, and by physically receiving ordinary bread and ordinary wine (or grape juice), we believe the Holy Spirit unites us with Jesus Christ and with each other, even those whom physical distance and health concerns separate, and Jesus Christ again humbles himself to become fully present in his real body and blood, given to each of us, and all of us together. This Meal is for you. All are welcome here! Come and receive the bread into your open hand and receive/ take the cup from the servers at Table. If you desire only a blessing, please do come and receive the sign of the Cross and a word of blessing and prayer.

Prelude

WELCOME ! ¡BIENVENIDOS! AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GATHERING

Invocation

All may make the sign of the cross, the sign that is marked at baptism, as the presiding minister begins.

Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit:

And blessed be God's kingdom, now and forever. Amen.

Community Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins in the presence of God
and of one another.

Silence is kept for reflection.

God of mercy,

we confess that we have sinned.

We trust earthly powers and human authority.

We worship false gods.

We grow fearful. We cling to false comforts.

We have turned away from our neighbors' needs.

We have trusted false promises.

We plead: Come to us.

Bring your mercy and repentance to birth in us.

Forgive our sins.

Hear the good news: The Prophets tells us that

a righteous Branch from King David's Family Tree springs forth:

it is Christ , the Messiah, the Lord, our Savior, Jesus

in whom we have forgiveness, new life, and mercy.

By the power of the Holy Spirit, I announce to you

the grace and forgiveness of God through ✝ Christ Jesus,

whose day draws near.

Amen.

Kyrie - Tune: Come, Thou Long Expected Jesus



Lord, have mer - cy__ on your peo - ple. Christ have mer - cy__ on__ us.
 Ky - ri - e e - le - i - son.__ Chri - ste e - le - i - son.



Shine your light in__ to our dark-ness. Fill__ us__ with your ho - ly love.
 Heal all__ con - flicts be - tween na - tions. Teach us__ how to__ live as one.



Be our strength in times of__ trou - ble. Set us free from chains that__ bind.
 Show us how to love our__ neigh - bor. Run to those who__ cry for__ help.



Breathe new life in - to our__ spir - its. Pu - ri - fy our__ hearts and minds.
 Word made flesh who lives a - mong us; Christ our__ Lord, Em - man - u - el.

Greeting

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

Advent / Christmas Glory to God - Tune: Angels We Have Heard on High



Glo - ry be to God on high. Peace, good-will to all the earth. Let us sing a
 Love has come to dwell with us. Light now shines on ev - 'ry - one. Hope has lift - ed



joy - ful song to the Christ, the Liv - ing Word. Glo - - -
 up our hearts. Joy has made, in us, a home.



- - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o; Glor -



- - - ri - a in ex - cel - sis De - o.

WORDS: David Eck, copyright © 2011. TUNE: Angels We Have Heard On High

Prayer of the Day

Let us pray.

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

Word

First Reading

Zephaniah 3:14-20

The prophet Zephaniah's message is mostly one of judgment for sin. This reading, however, which comes from the conclusion of the book, prophesies joy for Judah and Jerusalem. Judgment has led to repentance, and God's salvation is at hand.

¹⁴ Sing aloud, O daughter Zion;
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,
O daughter Jerusalem!

¹⁵ The 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.

¹⁶ On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:
Do not fear, O Zion;

do not let your hands grow weak.

¹⁷ The 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

¹⁸ as on a day of festival.

I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

¹⁹ I 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.

²⁰ At that time I will bring you home (from Exile),
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.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

Week 3 Advent Wreath Lighting Litany

L1: At every beginning there is a yearning
for the one who is coming.

O Emmanuel,

Open us up to your coming.

L2: We gather together to allow our deeply held hopes
to be reshaped by God's promises.

O Emmanuel,

Open us up to your coming.

L1: We wait for the day
when God will make for us a future
that is no longer predicated on our fear.

O Emmanuel,

Open us up to your coming.

L2: We find a new receptivity within us
that desires God's will over our own will
and relies on God's justice and mercy to accomplish it.

O Emmanuel,

Open us up to your coming.

L1: Jesus, we welcome your presence now
with the lighting of these candles,
whose flames bring warmth to winter
and fill this place with the glow of hope.

Amen.

L2: Bless our families and our homes this season,
that in them love may abide, and happiness abound,
as we await the good news announcement of the birth of Jesus
our Lord and King on Christmas Eve.

O Emmanuel,

Open us up to your coming.

Light 2 blue and 1 pink candles.

2 O come, O Wis - dom from on high, em - brac - ing all things
 far and nigh: in strength and beau - ty come and stay;
 teach us your will and guide our way. *Refrain* Re-joice! Re-joice!
 Em - man - u - el shall come to you, O Is - ra - el.

Text: *Psalterium Cantionum Catholicarum*, Köln, 1710; tr. composite
 Music: VENI, EMMANUEL, French processional, 15th cent.
 Text sts. 2, 6, 7 © 1997 Augsburg Fortress.

Psalm 20

A Prayer for Victory "To the leader." A Psalm of King David.

- ¹ The Lord answer you in the day of trouble!
The name of the God of Jacob protect you!
- ² May God send you help from the sanctuary,
and give you support from Mount Zion.
- ³ May God remember all your offerings,
and regard with favor your burnt sacrifices.
- ⁴ May God grant you your heart's desire,
and fulfil all your plans.
- ⁵ May we shout for joy over your victory,
and in the name of our God set up our banners.
May the Lord fulfil all your petitions.
- ⁶ Now I know that the Lord will help his Anointed;
he will answer him from his holy heaven
with mighty victories by his right hand.
- ⁷ Some take pride in chariots, and some in horses,
but our pride is in the name of the Lord our God.
- ⁸ They will collapse and fall,
but we shall rise and stand upright.
- ⁹ Give victory to the king, O Lord;
answer us when we call.

Second Reading

Philippians 4:4-7

Despite being in prison, Paul is remarkably upbeat as he writes this letter. Here, he urges his friends in Philippi to trust God with all their worries and concerns with the hope that they will experience God's joy and peace.

⁴ Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. ⁵ Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. ⁶ Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. ⁷ And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

The Word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God**

All God's Children Message

"John the whistle blower:

Pastor Brad Brauer

'Sinner! Foul! Red Number 22, 3 shot penalty.'"

Gospel Acclamation ELW 262

Wait for the Lord, whose day is near.

Wait for the Lord: be strong, take heart!

Text: Taizé Community

Music: WAIT FOR THE LORD, Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994

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Holy Gospel

Luke 3:7-18

The Holy Gospel according to Saint Luke, the third chapter

Glory to you, O Lord.

John the Baptist announces the mighty one who is coming. John, custodian of the Law and Referee whose whistle calls out our sins and fouls, teaches that preparation for God's reign is not a matter of identity but of bearing fruits of merciful justice, radical generosity, and vocational integrity.

⁷ 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?" ⁸ Bear 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. ⁹ *Even 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.*"

¹⁰ And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" ¹¹ In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." ¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" ¹³ He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." ¹⁴ Soldiers 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."

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John 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. ¹⁷ *His 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.*"

¹⁸ So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

The Gospel of the Lord. **Praise to you, O Christ.**

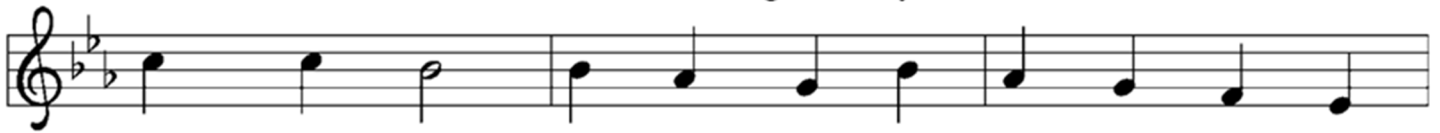
Sermon

***"Case File: Doris Watson and
her Need for 'a Grocery Store Fix'"***

Pastor Brad Brauer



1 Hark! a thrill - ing voice is sound - ing! "Christ is near," we
 2 Wak - ened by the sol - emn warn - ing, from earth's bond - age
 3 See the Lamb, so long ex - pect - ed, come with par - don
 4 So, when next he comes in glo - ry and the world is



hear it say. "Cast a - way the works of dark - ness,
 let us rise; Christ, our sun, all sloth dis - pel - ling,
 down from heav'n. Let us haste, with tears of sor - row,
 wrapped in fear, he will shield us with his mer - cy



all you chil - dren of the day!"
 shines up - on the morn - ing skies.
 one and all, to be for - giv'n;
 and with words of love draw near.

Text: Latin hymn, 1632; tr. Edward Caswall, 1814–1878

Music: MERTON, William H. Monk, 1823–1889

Confession of Faith: the 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 the People

As we prepare for Emmanuel, God-with-us, let us pray for all people and places that long for God's presence. response after each petition: Lord, in your mercy, **receive our prayer.**
response after the final petition: **Amen.**

Sharing the Peace of Christ

God came to us in the Child of Bethlehem. When that Child grew up into manhood, he revealed himself as the long-expected Savior and Messiah. Let us share in the Peace that Jesus brought.

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

Offering

We Receive our offerings for the work of this Church here and beyond . . . "Sharing God's Love with All Generations" Stewardship Appeal Ingathering & Commitment Weekend

May you know the love that surpasses knowledge—and be filled to the measure of all the fullness of God. ²⁰ Now to God who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us, ²¹ to him be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, for ever and ever! Amen.- Ephesians 3:19-21

At this time (or as you enter) please share your financial commitments and promises for 2025 or send your Statement of Commitment (Commitment Card you received) to the Office. You are also invited to give, additionally, to our December Bucket of Change ELCA World Hunger Program recipient ministry. We are invited to give joyfully our tithes and offerings to join in God's unceasing mission through the Church. Place your offerings in the basket in the aisle. You may also send gifts directly to St. Luke via mail or contribute via our online giving resources on our website: <http://stlukeabq.org> The Bucket of Change recipient for **December** is **ELCA World Hunger** [website: ELCA.org/hunger] Working with and through congregations in the U.S.A. 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, Lutheran churches overseas and other partners, ELCA World Hunger reaches communities in need. *"We give Thee but Thine own, whatever the gift may be. All that we have is Thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from Thee."* Vs. 1 of Hymn ELW 686, words by William W. How, 1823-1897 (Our offerings are received as the Lord's Table is set.)



1 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.
2 We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.



Sun of jus - tice, shine up - on us; we are trust - ing in your prom - ise.
Lov - ing Shep - herd, walk be - side us; stir our hearts, and gent - ly guide us.



We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.
We are wait - ing for Je - sus; Je - sus brings peace.

Text: John Helgen, b. 1957

Music: JESUS BRINGS PEACE, John Helgen

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Offering Prayer

Praise and thanks to you, O God our Creator, Maker and Owner of all things. Through your goodness you have blessed us with these gifts: ourselves, our time, our talents, and our possessions. Use us and what we have gathered here and commit to you in promise in this moment of stewardship ingathering, in feeding the world with your love, mercy, and hope. We ask this prayer in the Name of that One who loved us and gave himself for us completely as an Offering for sin, our Savior, Jesus Christ our Lord.
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.

The Preface

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy, that we should at all times and in all places give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God, through our Savior Jesus Christ. You comforted your people with the promise of the Redeemer, through whom you will also make all things new in the day when he comes to judge the world in righteousness. And so, with all the choirs of angels, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Sanctus - Tune - "Bring a Torch Jeanette Isabella"



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly One... God of pow - er, God of might. Heav'n and
earth are full of your glor - y. Ho - sa - na in the high - est. Blessed! Blessed
is the one who comes... Blessed! Blessed! in the name of God.

The Presiding Minister gives thanks in these or other words . . .

Holy One, the beginning and the end, the giver of life:
Blessed are you for the birth of creation.
Blessed are you in the darkness and in the light.
Blessed are you for your promise to your people.
Blessed are you in the prophets' hopes and dreams.
Blessed are you for Mary's openness to your will.
Blessed are you for your Son Jesus,
the Word made flesh.

In the night in which he was betrayed,
our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;
broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,
and gave it for all to drink, saying:
This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.
Do this for the remembrance of me.

Let us proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

With this bread and cup

we remember your Word dwelling among us,

full of grace and truth.

We remember our new birth in his death and resurrection.

We look with hope for his coming.

Come, Lord Jesus.

Holy God, we long for your Spirit.

Come among us.

Bless this meal.

May your Word take flesh in us.

Awaken your people.

Fill us with your light.

Bring the gift of peace on earth.

Come, Holy Spirit.

All praise and glory are yours,

Holy One of Israel,

Word of God incarnate,

Power of the Most High,

one God, now and forever.

Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Let us pray as Jesus taught us.

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.

Invitation to Communion

When we eat this bread, broken for us, we share the body of Christ. And we become Christ's body in the world. When we share this Cup of Wine, the Cup of Life outpoured, we share the blood of Christ.

Here our God feeds us. Come to the table of mercy.



Distribution of Communion

You are invited to move up the center aisle and receive bread (gluten-free bread is also available) from the pastor or communion assistant. Take a cup of wine (red) or grape juice (white) from the tray held by the assistant. After receiving, please walk back by the side aisle where you can place your empty disposable cup in the basket.

*The body of Christ, given for you;
The blood of Christ, shed for you.*

Lamb of God - Tune: "Still, Still, Still"

Lamb of God, you take a - way our sin. Lord, have mer-cy
on us, and may your peace be with us.
Lamb of God, you take a - way our sin.

The Communion Blessing

The Body and blood of our Lord, Jesus Christ ✝ which you have received, together with his blessing, strengthen you now and keep you for eternal life. **Amen.**

Prayer after Communion

Let us pray.

Generous God, we thank you for the gift of life, for the bread of life and the Cup of salvation. **With our own eyes we have seen your salvation which you have prepared in the sight of every people. Help us to share his glory and light to all peoples everywhere in what we say and do. Amen.**

SENDING

Blessing (Benediction)

Creator God of endings and beginnings,
Saving God in the darkness who is Christ our light,
God, our hope for the journey, the Spirit Friend ✝
bless and keep you now and forever. **Amen.**



1 In thee is glad-ness a - mid all sad - ness, Je - sus, sun - shine of my
2 Je - sus is ours! . . . We fear no pow - ers, not of earth or sin or



heart. By thee are giv - en the gifts of heav - en, thou the
death. He sees and bless - es in worst dis - tress - es; he can



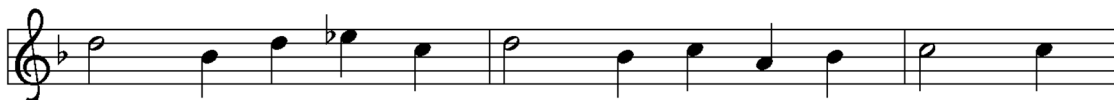
true re - deem - er art. Our souls thou wak - est; our bonds thou
change them with a breath. Where - fore the sto - ry tell of his



break - est. Who trusts thee sure - ly has built se - cure - ly
glo - ry with heart and voic - es; all heav'n re - joic - es



and stands for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! Our hearts are
in him for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia! We shout for



pin - ing to see thy shin - ing, dy - ing or liv - ing,
glad - ness, tri - umph o'er sad - ness, love him and praise him



to thee are cleav - ing; naught can us sev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!
and still shall raise him glad hymns for - ev - er: Al - le - lu - ia!

Text: Johann Lindemann, 1549–1631; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827–1878, alt.
Music: IN DIR IST FREUDE, Giovanni Giacomo Gastoldi, 1556–1622

Dismissal

Lord, you let your servants go in peace. Our eyes have seen your Salvation.
We go to prepare the way for Emmanuel.
Thanks be to God.

Postlude

St. Luke Prays *Let us then with confidence draw near to the throne of grace, that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need. - Hebrews 4:16*

For the peace from above and for our salvation ...

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:

† Our country; Synod Bishop The Rev. Dr. Meghan Johnston Aelabouni; churches in our Synod, especially those searching for a pastor; ELCA missionary in Guayana Carolyn Schneider, Ph.D.; outreach Lutheran Family Services; ministry to students Luther House UNM-CNM; Navajo Lutheran Mission which serves Navajo community in Rock Point, AZ; ELC in Jordan and Holy Land; our brothers & sisters in Middle East; the persecuted church in Columbia's "Red Zones"

For this holy house, St Luke church, and for all who offer here their worship and praise, let us pray:

† Interim Pastor Brad Brauer; for all servants (church committee/ministry leaders); for the 2025 Stewardship team; St. Luke Preschool students & staff; St. Luke Preschool Village participants; church office staff; and for all who come to worship

For those who bring offerings, those who do good works in this congregation, those who toil, those who sing, and all the people here present who await from the Lord great and abundant mercy, let us pray.

For our public servants, for the government and those who protect us that they may be upheld and strengthened in every good deed, let us pray

† For our current, newly elected & appointed government officials & for our nation's healing and civic health; US military personnel serving in the Middle East and in the Pacific; rescue workers in Roswell after the flood in October; those who are helping rebuild the flooded U.S. eastern states

For those who work to bring peace, justice, health and protection in this and every place, let us pray:

† Law enforcements in greater Albuquerque and neighboring cities; ELCA World Hunger partnering with congregations in the U.S.A. 50 states, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands, Lutheran churches overseas and other partners to reach communities in need

Please submit your prayer requests to PrayerChain@StLukeABQ.org or contact the church office. Names will remain on the prayer list for one month.

For our deliverance from all afflictions, wrath, danger, and need, let us pray:

† For peace in our families and our homes

† Our beloved church family members: newly baptized Patrick Needham, Jonny Kay, Else Couzin, Steve, Karin Duda, Cheryl, Sherri Domres, Ellen Seylar, Don Lange, Nancy Granert, Dorela Cole, Mike & Brenda Sanchez, Crystal Vaughan & Shane Kenney-Vaughan, Polly Brodbeck, Melda Burns, Leah Coughenour, Dottie Donohoe, Kay Dunbar, Lucille Few, Diane Gruner, Marie Lenard, Marv Plugge, Loretta Roe, Lois Rowland, Ardys Theophilus, Don Vlasaty, Liz Wills

† Friends & family: Russ Glauner, Cheryl, Don & Annette, Anna Cordova, baby Gabriel Shore, John, Jeanne Willey, Lyn & Leigh Bitters, Betty G, Omar, baby Whitney, Mary & Vicky, Aleta, Chris, Charlotte, Bernadette, Victoria, Melanie Amend, Alan, Valerie, Jean Klinke, Garrett & Thomas, John, Jay, Racquel, Peggy & Marie, Marjorie, Ben Grill, Desiree, Al & Linda Roesler, Bonnie & Julian, Roy, Brock, Kristine, Derek, Brandon, Wesley (2 yrs), Rogene, Chris, Enrique

† Near End of Life: Joan Sandy, Loretta

† The Middle East, that all may be reconciled to God; the persecuted church in Iran, that Spirit-led conversations will bring more Iranians to know hope & peace in Christ.

For the families of the faithful who have gone before us and are at rest, let us give thanks:

† Keith Jordan on death of mother Dec. 7-8 weekend; Family of Anna Burns on her sudden death week of Dec. 1; Family of Greg Raver upon his death; Family of Mark Christian upon his death; Kathy on death of her mom; Alex & family on death of her dad; Sonia Lersten & family on death of her husband Ken on Nov. 15; and others who grieve and mourn their losses.

Rejoicing in the fellowship of all the saints, we commend ourselves, one another, and our whole life to Christ, our Lord.

† † † † † † †

Participating in Today's Worship:

Pastor Brad Brauer

Advent Wreath Candle Lighting/ Litany: Pastor Brad Brauer

Reader: Holly Trujillo

Vocalist: Sally Quintana & Shane Hall

Pianist: Danielle Cordova

Sound: Ray Prudhomme

Video Engineer: Pamela Franco

Ushers/Communion Assistants: Diane Quarles, Carrie Haugen

Nursery Care: Precious Goodhart

Sacristy Care for Holy Communion this weekend: Dortha Carr

Pastoral Care: Pastor Brad Brauer 402.416.0483

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Danielle Cordova, Coordinator of Music Ministries † Nancy Granert, Organist

Precious Goodhart Nursery Care (Saturday) † Taylor Hollowwa, Nursery Care (Sunday)

Allie Brandt, Coordinator of Multi-Generational Ministries † Pamela Franco, Media Ministry Assistant

Michelle Barba, Business Manager † Angie Miller, Church Office Manager & Ministry Assistant