



**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

He will be called...  
**Mighty God**

**December 04, 2022**

Holy Trinity Lutheran Church  
38801 Blacow Road  
Fremont, CA 94536  
Church: (510) 793-6285

December 04, 2022  
10 AM Service – Advent 2  
Ministers: The People of Holy Trinity  
Web Site: [holytrinityfremont.org](http://holytrinityfremont.org)

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Welcome! Enter with Prayer, Worship in Awe, Leave to Serve.

Our worship services are livestreamed on our YouTube channel and website. If you do not wish to be filmed, please do not sit in the first four pews or the last pew. Children's Time and communion distribution are not filmed.

All invitations to stand or kneel are for those who are able.

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## **WELCOME TO THE STORY**

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*At the heart of our Advent preparation stands John the Baptist, who calls us to repent and make a new beginning. As the darkness increases we turn toward the approaching light of Christ. For Christians he is the root of Jesse, the righteous judge who welcomes all, especially the poor and meek of the earth. We wait with hope for that day when the wolf will dwell with the lamb, and there will be no more hurt or destruction.*

*From Christ's table we are sent in the spirit of John the Baptist to proclaim that in Christ the kingdom of God has come near.*

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## **A Story that Invites Us**

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### **SINGING BOWL**

During the ringing of the bowl, you are encouraged to center your thoughts on God the Creator, Christ the Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit our Comforter.

**PRELUDE: “On Jordan’s Banks” vs. 1,4,5**

*Verse 1:*

On Jordan’s banks the Baptist’s cry  
announces that the Lord is nigh;  
awake and hearken, for he brings  
glad tidings of the King of kings!

*Verse 4:*

Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,  
and make us rise to fall no more;  
oh, let your face upon us shine  
and fill the world with love divine.

*Verse 5:*

All praise to you, eternal Son,  
whose advent has our freedom won,  
whom with the Father we adore,  
and Holy Spirit, evermore.

**WELCOME**

**SHARING GOD’S PEACE**

*P: Even as we pray for the peace of the world, let us bring  
peace to one another,*

**All: as we share the peace of Christ this day.**

*P: The peace of Jesus is with you.*

**All: And also with you.**

Please Stand

**CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS**

*P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who comes to wake  
us from sleep, who leads us into the light of grace.*

**All: Amen.**

*P: Let us prepare the way of the Savior by confessing our  
sin against God and neighbor.*

Silence is kept for reflection.

*P: God of all time,*

**All: we confess that we have not prepared for your merciful reign among us. We ignore our neighbors in need and fail in the labor of justice and peace. In your mercy forgive us. Grant us wisdom to welcome your light and to seek the things that will endure until Christ comes again in glory. Amen.**

*P: Comfort, O comfort my people, says our God. In Jesus Christ our sins are forgiven and all things are made new. Rejoice in this good news!*

**All: Amen.**

## ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

**CHOIR:** *“God with Us, Emmanuel”*

Maker of the stars of night, of the sun by day,  
rise in us and bring your light; burn our shadows away.  
In the darkness where we dwell,  
we await the light of God, Emmanuel.

**LITANY:** *He Will Be Called Mighty God*

L: During Advent we wait for the coming Savior  
who is our Mighty God.

**All: You are mighty, O Creator, and your faithfulness endures forever.**

L: We look to the One in whom we find redemption.

**All: You are mighty, O Redeemer, and your faithfulness endures forever.**

L: We look to the One who forgives our sins.

**All: You are mighty, O Sanctifier, and your faithfulness endures forever.**

L: We look to the One who overcomes the darkness.

**All: You are mighty, O Eternal Light, and your faithfulness endures forever.**

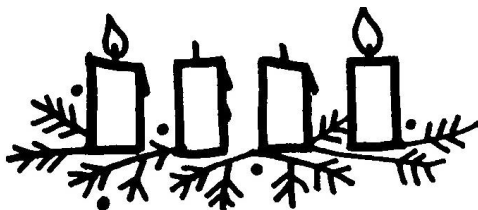
L: We look to the One who has come to set us free.

All: **You are mighty, O Redeemer, and your faithfulness endures forever.**

### Candle is lit

*P: Today we light two candles. The first candle reminds us of our hope in knowing Jesus as our Wonderful Counselor. The second candle reminds us of our joy, knowing that Jesus is our Mighty God. As we light the second candle we remember that even when we face trials, hardships and difficulties – our strength is found in what Christ has done. As we continue our Advent journey, let us rejoice in the One in who gives strength to the weary and power to the weak.*

All: Ev-er-last-ing Fa-ther, Prince of Peace,  
Won-der-ful Coun-sel-or, Al-might-y God.  
Em-man-u-el, Em-man-u-el. God with  
us, Em-man-u-el.



## CLOSING PRAYER

*P: Gracious Creator, remind us of your power throughout this Advent season.*

**All: In times of weakness, remind us that you are the One who gives strength. In times of confusion, remind us that you are the One who reveals truth. In times of doubt, remind us that you are the One who gives hope. We thank you for being our Mighty God. We pray this in the name of Christ. Amen.**

## CALL TO WORSHIP

L: Prepare the way of our Savior.

**All: God's kingdom has drawn near.**

L: Prepare the way of peace.

**All: God's salvation is at hand.**

L: Prepare the way of righteousness.

**All: God's Spirit moves among us.**

L: Prepare the way of our Savior.

**All: Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God.**

## OPENING SONG: *"He Shall Be Called"*

He shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Almighty God.

He shall be called Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

His name is Jesus, for He will save His people from sin.

His name Immanuel, God with man.

Jesus is called Wonderful Counselor, Almighty God.

Jesus is called Everlasting father, Prince of Peace.

His name is Jesus, for He saves His people from sin.

His name Immanuel, God with man,

His name Immanuel, God with man.

We praise your name Wonderful Counselor, Almighty God.

We praise your name Everlasting father, Prince of Peace.

We love you Jesus, for You save Your people from sin.

We love You, Immanuel, God with man.

We love You, Immanuel, God with man.

## **GREETING**

*P: Strengthen your hearts, for the coming of the Messiah is near! God is with you.*

**All: And also with you.**

## **PRAYER OF THE DAY**

**L:** Stir up our hearts, God, to prepare the way of your only Son.

**All: By his coming nurture our growth as people of repentance and peace; through Jesus Christ, our Savior, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.**

Be Seated

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## **The Story that Shapes and Forms Us**

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## **PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION**

**Reader:** Faithful God, through the gift of your word you offer us instruction, encouragement, and hope.

**All: By the power of your Spirit teach us to live in hope, sharing joy and peace with the world; in the name of Jesus our Savior. Amen.**

**Reader:** The reading is from the book of Romans, chapter fifteen, beginning with the fourth verse.

## **READING: *Romans 15:4-13***

Whatever was written in former days was written for our instruction, so that by steadfastness and by the encouragement of the scriptures we might have hope. May the God of steadfastness and encouragement grant you to live in harmony with one another, in accordance with Christ Jesus, so that together you may with one voice glorify the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Welcome one another, therefore, just as Christ has welcomed you, for the glory of God. For I tell you that Christ has become a servant of the circumcised on behalf of the truth of God in order that he might confirm the promises given to the patriarchs, and in order that the Gentiles might glorify God for his mercy. As it is written,

“Therefore I will confess you among the Gentiles,  
and sing praises to your name”;

and again he says,

“Rejoice, O Gentiles, with his people”;

and again,

“Praise the Lord, all you Gentiles,  
and let all the peoples praise him”;

and again Isaiah says,

“The root of Jesse shall come,  
the one who rises to rule the Gentiles;  
in him the Gentiles shall hope.”

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Reader: Word of God, word of life.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

Please Stand

**GOSPEL ACCLAMATION:** *tune - “Angels We Have Heard on High”*

**All: Lord, to whom else shall we go  
Words of deathless life to know?  
Not by bread alone we live,  
But by ev’ry word You give.  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!  
Gloria in excelsis Deo!**



*P: The Holy Gospel according to Matthew, the third chapter.*

**All: Glory to you, O God.**

**GOSPEL:** *Matthew 3:1-12*

In those days John the Baptist appeared in the wilderness of Judea, proclaiming, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.” This is the one of whom the prophet Isaiah spoke when he said,

“The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

‘Prepare the way of the Lord,  
make his paths straight.’”

Now John wore clothing of camel’s hair with a leather belt around his waist, and his food was locusts and wild honey. Then the people of Jerusalem and all Judea were going out to him, and all the region along the Jordan, and they were baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins.

But when he saw many Pharisees and Sadducees coming for baptism, he said to them, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruit worthy of repentance. Do not presume 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. 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.

“I baptize you with water for repentance, but one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to carry his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, and he will clear his threshing floor and will gather his wheat into the granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

*P: The Gospel of the Lord.*

**All: Praise be to you, O Christ.**

Be Seated

**CHILDREN'S TIME:** Pastor Barbara

Please Stand

**PRE-MESSAGE SONG:** *“Welcome to Our World”*

Tears are falling, hearts are breaking  
How we need to hear from God  
You've been promised,  
We've been waiting  
Welcome holy Child  
Welcome holy Child

Hope that You don't mind our manger  
How I wish we would have known.  
But long awaited holy Stranger,  
Make Yourself at home  
Make Yourself at home

Bring your peace into our violence,  
Bid our hungry souls be filled.  
Word now breaking heaven's silence  
Welcome to our world  
Welcome to our world

Fragile finger sent to heal us  
Tender brow prepared for thorn,  
Tiny heart whose blood will save us  
Unto us is born  
Unto us is born

So wrap our injured flesh around You,  
Breathe our air and walk our sod.  
Rob our sin and make us holy,  
Perfect Son of God  
Perfect Son of God  
Welcome to our world.

Be Seated

**MESSAGE:** Pastor Barbara

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**A Story that Feeds Us**

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**INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

**L:** In the season of Advent we remember that God came as a gift to and for us.

**All:** **As we enter this season of preparation, may we bring our own gifts to and for God.**

**THANKFUL OFFERING:** *“Mary, Mary”*

*Chorus:*

Mary, Mary what you gonna call that baby?

What you gonna call that holy baby?

*Verse 1:*

Slaves are we and looking for a master,

Why don't you call Him Lord?

Shhh! Let's all call him Lord!

*Chorus*

*Verse 2:*

We like our sheep need someone

To guide us, why don't we call him

Shepherd?

Shh! Let's all call him Shepherd!

*Chorus*

*Verse 3:*

Hungry and poor we need someone

To save us, why don't we call him

Savior?

Shh! Let's all call him Savior!

*Chorus*

Please Stand

**OFFERTORY RESPONSE:** “*In the Bleak Midwinter*” vs. 3

**All:** What can I give him, poor as I am?

If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;

If I were a wise man I would do my part;

Yet what I can I give him – give my heart.

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

L: Gracious God, as we bring our gifts to you, we bring much more than an earthly treasure; we bring our very lives.

**All:** Transform us through our giving, that we may grow ever closer to you. Help us share your peace and love with others as joyfully and generously, as you have shared your gifts with us. In your holy name we pray, Amen.

## **PRAYER OF THE CHURCH**

L: As we prepare for the fullness of Christ’s presence, let us pray for a world that yearns for new hope. God, you renew the church in every age. We give thanks for hymn writers and theologians. Inspire teachers, writers, and musicians to delight and instruct your people. God, in your mercy,

**All:** hear our prayer.

L: You defend the cause of all who are poor and oppressed. Raise up leaders who will govern with equity and serve the common good. Guide judges, lawmakers, and public officials to protect the rights of those who cannot advocate for themselves. God, in your mercy,

**All:** hear our prayer.

L: You deliver those in need from suffering and fear. Come to the aid of any who are exploited or abused, especially children, elders, and victims of human trafficking. Provide safety and help to our neighbors without shelter, refugees, and those fleeing violence. God, in your mercy,

**All:** hear our prayer.

L: You urge your people to welcome one another as you have welcomed us. Nurture ministries of hospitality and care in this and every congregation. We pray for people who are homebound, hospitalized, or separated from loved ones. God, in your mercy,

**All: hear our prayer.**

L: God of all, hear the prayers of our heart said either silently or aloud.

Here other prayers may be offered.

L: God, in your mercy,

**All: hear our prayers.**

L: God of our longing, you know our deepest needs. By your Spirit, gather our prayers and join them with the prayers of all your children. In Jesus' name we pray.

**All: Amen.**

## **A CAROL SETTING FOR HOLY COMMUNION**

**THE GREAT THANKSGIVING:** tune - "*Good Christian Friends, Rejoice*"

*P: Oh, may the good Lord be with you.*

**All: And may the Lord be with you too.**

*P: Lift your hearts to God in praise.*

**All: To the Lord our hearts we raise.**

*P: Let us offer praises true.*

**All: It is fitting so to do:**

**Gratefully we sing to the Lord, our King!**

## **THE PREFACE**

*P: Lord God, we anticipate again the birth of your Son. As we stand on the threshold of the fulfillment of your greatest promise, we are in awe of the manner in which you have accomplished your purposes. You chose to lift up those whom the world regarded as poor, weak and powerless.*

*You frustrated the efforts of those who considered themselves to be great and powerful. Guide us this Advent Season to deeper levels of commitment to your kingdom. Open our eyes to see new ways to love you and to serve you in this holy Advent Season. And so, with the church on earth and the hosts of heaven, we praise your name and sing:*

**THE SANCTUS:** tune - *“From Heaven Above”*

**All:** **As light breaks forth, we sing Your praise  
To you, Redeemer of our days,  
For we have found in Jesus’ birth  
Good news of peace and human worth.**

**As you, great God, in glory reign,  
We cannot long in sin remain,  
For by your righteousness and grace  
The path to Bethlehem we trace.**

## **CONSECRATION**

*P: 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 in 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.*

## **THE LORD’S PRAYER**

*P: Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us, using the language or translation of our hearts.*

**All: 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.**

## **FRACTION RITE**

*P: Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you.*

**All: Let us enter into the joy of this feast.**

Be Seated

**LAMB OF GOD:** tune - *“’Twas in the Moon of Wintertime”*

**All: O Lamb of God who takes away our sins, have mercy.**

**O Lamb of God who takes away our sins, have mercy.**

**O Lamb of God who takes away**

**the sins of all the earth, we pray:**

**Jesus, grant us your peace, grant us your peace.**

**Glory be to God on high.**

Holy Communion is open to all.

Grape juice is white, wine is red.

Gluten-free wafers are available upon request.

Let an usher know if you need communion brought to you.

### **For walking communion:**

You may come down the center aisle. Hold out your hand for the pastor to drop the host into, then take a cup of wine (red) or grape juice (white) from the assistant’s tray, then return to your seat via the side aisles, depositing your empty cup in the provided bowls.

### **For communion at your seat with pre-packaged kit:**

You may come down the center aisle, take a communion kit from the assistant, and return to your seat to partake. Or you may remain seated and partake of the kit you picked up at the entrance. The ushers will come around to collect empty kits.

## **COMMUNION SONG:** “*Christmas Hallelujah*” vs. 1,2,4,5

### *Verse 1:*

I've heard about this baby boy  
Who's come to earth to bring us joy  
And I just want to sing this song to you  
It goes like this, the fourth, the fifth  
The minor fall, the major lift  
With every breath I'm singing Hallelujah  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

### *Verse 2:*

A couple came to Bethlehem  
Expecting child, they searched the inn  
To find a place for You were coming soon  
There was no room for them to stay  
So in a manger filled with hay  
God's only Son was born, oh Hallelujah  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

### *Verse 4:*

A star shown bright up in the east  
To Bethlehem, the wisemen three  
Came many miles and journeyed long for You  
And to the place at which You were  
Their frankincense and gold and myrrh  
They gave to You and cried out Hallelujah  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

### *Verse 5:*

I know You came to rescue me  
This baby boy would grow to be  
A man and one day die for me and you  
My sins would drive the nails in You  
That rugged cross was my cross, too  
Still every breath You drew was Hallelujah  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah  
Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah

## **SINGING BOWL**

Please Stand



## POST COMMUNION PRAYER

*P: Good and gracious God, as you have been with us at this holy meal, be with us in our daily bread.*

**All: Help us to be with others in the name of the one who says, “I am with you always,” Jesus Christ, Emmanuel. Amen.**

**POST COMMUNION THANKS:** tune - “*God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen*”

**All: Oh, thank the Lord and sing His praise,  
What He has done proclaim!  
Let all who seek the Lord rejoice  
And proudly bear His name  
Who leads His thankful people forth  
His promises to claim.  
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy,  
Comfort and joy,  
Oh, tidings of comfort and joy!**

Be Seated

## COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please Stand

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### A Story that Sends Us Out to Love and Serve

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**BENEDICTION:** tune - “*O Little Town of Bethlehem*”

*P: Now may the good Lord bless and keep,  
His love in you increase;  
Lift up His face with shining grace,  
And grant eternal peace.*

**All: To Father, Son and Spirit,  
Eternal One-in-Three,  
Be thanks and praise through all our days  
And to eternity!**

## **SENDING SONG: “Born in Bethlehem”**

Baby Jesus, born in a stable,  
A humble Savior’s birth.  
You left your throne in heaven  
Above to live here on the earth.

Baby Jesus, lyin’ in a manger,  
Cryin’ for the world.  
The angels told the shepherds  
Of the good news for us all.

### *Chorus:*

Hallelujah, the King is here,  
Giv’n for all men.  
For today the holy Son of God  
Is born in Bethlehem.

Come thou sinners and you saints,  
All peasants and all kings.  
And bow before the earth’s redeemer,  
Let all voices sing.

### *Chorus 2 times*

Baby Jesus do you know, You’ll die for all our sins?  
Don’t be afraid for in three days  
You will rise again  
You will rise again

### *Chorus 2 times*

For today the holy Son of God  
Is born in Bethlehem  
Born in Bethlehem

## **DISMISSAL**

L: Go in peace. Prepare the way.  
**All: Thanks be to God.**

## **POSTLUDE**