



Third Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2023

* *Please stand if you are able*

Prelude: "Away in a Manger"

Gathering

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

Reader: Isaiah announces, "The Spirit of the Lord is on me, because the Lord has anointed me to proclaim good news to the poor.

Reader: He has sent me to bind up the broken hearted, to proclaim freedom for the captives and release from darkness for the prisoners, to proclaim the year of the Lord's favor and the day of vengeance for our God, to comfort all who mourn and provide for those who grieve....

Reader: We light this candle as a sign of that coming day in Jesus Christ,

All: ...to bestow a crown of beauty instead of ashes, the oil of joy instead of mourning, and a garment of praise instead of despair."

Isaiah 61:1-3 adapted

All Singing: 107 "Come Light, Light of God"
Soloist singing once, all joining to repeat

* GOD'S GREETING

* GOD'S PEOPLE GREETING ONE ANOTHER

* **All Singing:** "O Come Let Us Adore Him"

**O come let us adore him, O come let us adore him,
O come let us adore him, Christ the Lord.**

**For he alone is worthy, for he alone is worthy,
For he alone is worthy, Christ the Lord.**

**We'll give him all the glory, we'll give him all the glory,
We'll give him all the glory, Christ the Lord.**

**We'll praise your name forever, we'll praise your name forever,
We'll praise your name forever, Christ the Lord.**

Children's Christmas Pageant

INTRODUCTION & INVITATION

All: Lord God, help us to hear your voice today in scripture and song. As we recite your nativity help us to remember, worship, and follow in faithful obedience. In the voices of children and angels, in familiar hymns and new songs, in laughter and silence may you be honored, and the gospel of Jesus be proclaimed. Amen.

THE BEGINNING OF THE CHRISTMAS STORY

Piano Solo: "What Child is This?"

THE PROPHET'S PROCLAMATION (Isaiah 61:1-3 & 9:2-7)

Soloist: "Comfort, Oh Comfort" Caroline Cobb

Comfort, oh comfort, to every place that is scorched and dry
Comfort, speak comfort, to every darkness in need of the light

In the wilderness, the green of Eden; in the wasteland, a garden blooms
Up from the desert springs a river, for He is making everything new

Comfort, oh comfort; there is a highway through this dry land
They will call him a Man of Sorrows and like a seed buried deep to rise again

Comfort, oh comfort, for the ransomed will return with a song
With joy we'll come into Zion, and all our sorrow, all our sighing will be gone

GOD'S PROMISE TO ZECHARIAH (Luke 1:5-25)

All Singing: 72 "Imagine"
Ensemble singing verse 1, all joining on verse 2

GOD'S PROMISE TO MARY (Luke 1:26-38)

* **All Singing: 821 "Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence"**

MARY & ELIZABETH (Luke 1:39-55)

Ensemble: "Mary's Song (Our King of Peace)" W. Kimbrough

My soul magnifies the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God!
My Savior has seen his servant in need,
And behold the great things, He has done:

He scatters the proud and rich; He lifts up the humble and weak.
The kings of the earth, He casts from their thrones
And the hungry, He welcomes to feast.

Oh, behold, my Savior has come! And my soul will tell of His praise
For He who is strong has come to the weak
And at last, He will reign as our King of Peace.

From now to the end of time, the nations will know me as blest
For God has made new His promise of love
And mercy through Abraham's seed.

ZECHARIAH & ELIZABETH (Luke 1:56-79)

All Singing: 58 "Prepare the Way"
Ensemble singing twice, all joining to repeat

THE BIRTH OF JESUS (Luke 2:1-7)

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING

1. General Fund
2. Resonate Global Mission

OFFERTORY "Away in a Manger"
"In the Bleak Midwinter"
"It Came Upon a Midnight Clear"

ANGELS & SHEPHERDS (Luke 2:8-20)

* **All Singing: 82 "Angels We Have Heard on High"**
Ensemble singing verse 1, all standing to sing verses 2 and 3

THE NEWBORN KING (Luke 2:15-20)

Children: "Away in the Manger"

All Singing: 93 "Go Tell It on the Mountain"
Children singing verse 1, all joining to sing refrain, verses 2 and 3

Sending

* BENEDICTION

* **All Singing: 92 "Joy to the World"**
Children singing verse 1, all singing verses 2-4

Postlude: "Swiss Noel" (No. 12) Louis Claude Daquin

Worship Leaders

Organist / Pianist:	Dora Diephouse	Advent Candles:	Post Family
Pianist / Vocalist:	Erin Pacheco	Prayer:	Bill Boerman-Cornell
Soloist:	Marissa Carpenter	Flutists:	Charlotte Lydon
Percussion:	Clay Carlson		Norah Van Wyngarden
Prelude Musicians:	Lillian Post	Saxophonists:	Reese Hulford
	Lynn Hollender		Cody Decker
	Trinity Simpson		Aaron Murawski
Interlude Pianist:	Moriah Dykstra	Clarinet:	Van Decker
Offertory Percussion:	Rosie Brumirski	Glockenspiel:	Elizabeth van den Brink
	Lauris Thomson	Triangle:	Rowan Van Wyngarden
	Henry Evenhouse		
	Caleb Carlson		
Pageant Directors:	Melissa Varghese		
	Lori Evenhouse		
	Erin Pacheco		
Minister:	Roger Nelson		

Pageant Participants

Narrators:	Bruno Brumirski Karis Dykstra Greda Gabrielse Brandon Hulford Reese Hulford Vera Hulford Maxton Pettinga	Lillian Post Chase Van Marion Beckham Van Wyngarden Cora Varghese Avery Westerveld Cooper Westerveld
Isaiah:	Tyler Hughes	
Zechariah:	Liam Pettinga	
Gabriel:	Owen Gabrielse	
Elizabeth:	Violet Brumirski	
Mary:	Moriah Dykstra	
Joseph:	Moises Pacheco	
Angels:	Isaiah Drenth Iris Bosscher Layla Hofman Molly Hughes Elouise Keeley-Jonker Dylan Mata	Joanna Pacheco Charlotte Post Rosie Riley Colette Van Marion Ari Varghese
Shepherds:	Evan Gabrielse Gloria Pacheco	Adam Post Ben van den Brink
Sheep:	Nolan Drenth Adelaide Hofman Everly Hofman	Jack Riley Sylvie Roozeboom Anders Varghese
Small Ensemble:	Grace Batkiewicz Karis Dykstra Greda Gabrielse	Lillian Post Elizabeth van den Brink
Large Ensemble:	Grace Batkiewicz Bruno Brumirski Violet Brumirski Karis Dykstra Moriah Dykstra Greda Gabrielse Tyler Hughes Brandon Hulford Reese Hulford Vera Hulford	Liam Pettinga Maxton Pettinga Lillian Post Elizabeth van den Brink Chase Van Marion Beckham Van Wyngarden Cora Varghese Avery Westerveld Cooper Westerveld

Hymns are from *Lift Up Your Hearts* (Faith Alive Christian Resources, 2013)
CCLI Copyright License 813746 | CCLI Streaming License 20253780 | OneLicense A-704612



5825 W 151st Street, Oak Forest, IL 60452
www.hope-crc.org