

Advent Lessons & Carols

The Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 15, 10:15 am

Childcare for infants through 4 years old is available on Sunday morning on the lower level, near the north entrance

Liturgy of the Word

Prelude

Welcome

Please stand as you are able.

Choral Introit

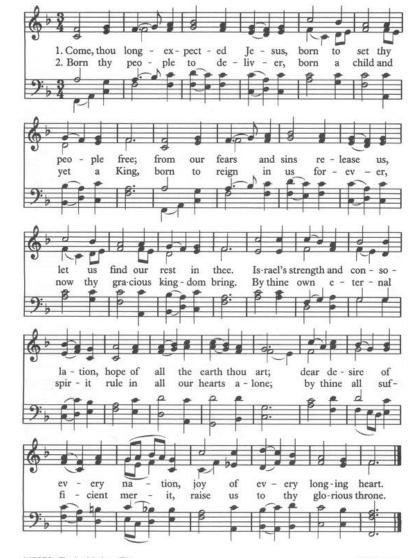
Prepare the Way of the Lord

Gather 330

Opening Carol

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

UM Hymnal 196



MUSIC: Rowland H. Prichard, 1830; harm. from The English Hymnal, 1906

HYFRYDOL

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Watch and wait for Christ's coming.

Light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love, remembering the promises of God with prayer.

We light this candle in hope. We light this candle for peace. We light this candle in joy.

Bidding Prayer

Dear People of God: In the season of Advent, it is our responsibility and joy to prepare ourselves to hear once more the message of the Angels, to go to Bethlehem and see the Son of God lying in a manger.

Let us hear and heed in Holy Scripture the story of God's loving purpose from the time of our rebellion against him until the glorious redemption brought to us by his holy Child Jesus, and let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of his birth with hymns and songs of praise.

But first, let us pray for the needs of his whole world, for peace and justice on earth, for the unity and mission of the Church for which he died, and especially for his Church in our country and in this city.

And because he particularly loves them, let us remember in his name the poor and helpless, the cold, the hungry and the oppressed, the sick and those who mourn, the lonely and unloved, the aged and little children, as well as all those who do not know and love the Lord Jesus Christ.

Finally, let us remember before God his pure and lowly Mother, and that whole multitude which no one can number, whose hope was in the Word made flesh, and with whom, in Jesus, we are one for evermore.

The Almighty God bless us with his grace; Christ give us the joys of everlasting life; and to the fellowship of the citizens above may the King of Angels bring us all. **Amen.**

Children Living the Word Commissioning

At this time, children from 4 years old through 4^{th} grade are invited downstairs to Children Living the Word, returning before communion.

Loving God, who told us that whoever welcomes a child welcomes Jesus himself, bless these children. Guide us as we encourage them in your ways, so that they might become disciples who are your hands and feet and voice in this world. Amen.

Please be seated.

The First Lesson Genesis 3:1-15

Now the serpent was more crafty than any other wild animal that the Lord God had made. He said to the woman, "Did God say, 'You shall not eat from any tree in the garden'?" The woman said to the serpent, "We may eat of the fruit of the trees in the garden, but God said, 'You shall not eat of the fruit of the tree that is in the middle of the garden, nor shall you touch it, or you shall die.'" But the serpent said to the woman, "You will not die, for God knows that when you eat of it your eyes will be opened, and you will be like God, knowing good and evil." So when the woman saw that the tree was good for food and that it was a delight to the eyes and that the tree was to be desired to make one wise, she took of its fruit and ate, and she also gave some to her husband, who was with her, and he ate. Then the eyes of both were opened, and they knew that they were naked, and they sewed fig leaves together and made loincloths for themselves.

They heard the sound of the Lord God walking in the garden at the time of the evening breeze, and the man and his wife hid themselves from the presence of the Lord God among the trees of the garden. But the Lord God called to the man and said to him, "Where are you?" He said, "I heard the sound of you in the garden, and I was afraid, because I was naked, and I hid myself." He said, "Who told you that you were naked? Have you eaten from the tree of which I commanded you not to eat?" The man said, "The woman whom you gave to be with me, she gave me fruit from the tree, and I ate." Then the Lord God said to the woman, "What is this that you have done?" The woman said, "The serpent tricked me, and I ate." The Lord God said to the serpent,

"Because you have done this, cursed are you among all animals and among all wild creatures; upon your belly you shall go, and dust you shall eat all the days of your life.

I will put enmity between you and the woman and between your offspring and hers; he will strike your head, and you will strike his heel."

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. Thanks be to God.

Anthem

There's a Voice in the Wilderness Crying

Milligan

The Second Lesson Isaiah 40:1-11

Comfort, O comfort my people, says your God.
Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that she has served her term, that her penalty is paid, that she has received from the Lord's hand double for all her sins.

A voice cries out:

"In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord; make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together,

for the mouth of the Lord has spoken." A voice says, "Cry out!"

And I said, "What shall I cry?"

All flesh is grass;

their constancy is like the flower of the field.

The grass withers; the flower fades, when the breath of the Lord blows upon it; surely the people are grass.

The grass withers; the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever.

Get you up to a high mountain,

O Zion, herald of good news;

lift up your voice with strength,
O Jerusalem, herald of good news;

lift it up, do not fear;

say to the cities of Judah,

"Here is your God!"

See, the Lord God comes with might, and his arm rules for him;

his reward is with him

and his recompense before him.

He will feed his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms and carry them in his bosom

and gently lead the mother sheep.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. Thanks be to God.

Hymnal 67



Words: Johann G. Olearius (1611-1684); tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-1878), alt. Music: Psalm 42, melody and bass Claude Goudinel (1514-1572); barm. Hymnat 1982.

Please be seated.

The Third Lesson Zephaniah 3:14-18

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! 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. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: "Do not fear, O Zion;
do not let your hands grow weak.
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
as on a day of festival."
I will remove disaster from you,
so that you will not bear reproach for it.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. Thanks be to God.

Blest Be the King Whose Coming



Words: Federico J. Pagura (b. 1923); tr. Fred Pratt Green (1903-2000), alt. Copyright © 1974, by Hope Publishing company, Carol Stream, II. 60188. All Rights Reserved. Used by permission, Harmonization Copyright © 1984, Ronald Arnau, Music: Vatet will ich dir geben, melody Melchior Teschner (1584-1635) alt.; harm. and desc. Ronald Arnatt (b. 1930).

The Fourth Lesson Micah 5:2-4

But you, O Bethlehem of Ephrathah,
who are one of the little clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to rule in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.
Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has brought forth;
then the rest of his kindred shall return
to the people of Israel.
And he shall stand and feed his flock in the strength of the Lord,
in the majesty of the name of the Lord his God.
And they shall live secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people. Thanks be to God.

Please stand as you are able.

Carol O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Hymnal 56

We will sing v. 6-7 before the Gospel, v. 8 following

- 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 shadow put to flight. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel has come to thee, O Israel!
- 7 O come, Desire of nations, bind in one the hearts of all mankind; Bid thou our sad divisions cease, And be thyself our King of Peace. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emannuel has come to thee, O Israel!

8 O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel has come to thee, O Israel!

The Gospel Luke 1:26-56

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke. **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

In the sixth month the angel Gabriel was sent by God to a town in Galilee called Nazareth, to a virgin engaged to a man whose name was Joseph, of the house of David. The virgin's name was Mary. And he came to her and said, "Greetings, favored one! The Lord is with you." But she was much perplexed by his words and pondered what sort of greeting this might be. The angel said to her, "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favor with God. And now, you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus. He will be great, and will be called the Son of the Most High, and the Lord God will give to him the throne of his ancestor David. He will reign over the house of Jacob forever, and of his kingdom there will be no end." Mary said to the angel, "How can this be, since I am a virgin?" The angel said to her, "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most High will overshadow you; therefore the child to be born will be holy; he will be called Son of God. And now, your relative Elizabeth in her old age has also conceived a son; and this is the sixth month for her who was said to be barren. For nothing will be

impossible with God." Then Mary said, "Here am I, the servant of the Lord; let it be with me according to your word." Then the angel departed from her.

In those days Mary set out and went with haste to a Judean town in the hill country, where she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit and exclaimed with a loud cry, "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb. And why has this happened to me, that the mother of my Lord comes to me? For as soon as I heard the sound of your greeting, the child in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her by the Lord." And Mary said, "My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, for he has looked with favor on the lowliness of his servant. Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name. His mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation. He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts. He has brought down the powerful from their thrones, and lifted up the lowly; he has filled the hungry with good things, and sent the rich away empty. He has helped his servant Israel, in remembrance of his mercy, according to the promise he made to our ancestors, to Abraham and to his descendants forever." And Mary remained with her about three months and then returned to her home.

The Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Reflection The Rev. Kyle Carswell



Anthem Lift Up Your Heads Weissel

The Peace

Priest The Peace of Christ be always with you.

People And also with you.

Liturgy of the Table

Offertory Who is the Lamb Larson

Please stand as you are able.

Doxology

to the tune of O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God above ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel!

The Great Thanksgiving

Priest The Lord be with you.

People And also with you.

Priest Lift up your hearts.

People We lift them to the Lord.

Priest Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

Celebrant

We praise you and we bless you, holy and gracious God, source of life abundant.

From before time you made ready the creation. Your Spirit moved over the deep and brought all things into being: sun, moon, and stars; earth, winds, and waters; and every living thing. You made us in your image, and taught us to walk in your ways. But we rebelled against you, and wandered far away; and yet, as a mother cares for her children, you would not forget us. Time and again you called us to live in the fullness of your love.

And so this day we join with Saints and Angels in the chorus of praise that rings through eternity, lifting our voices to magnify you as we sing (say):

Sanctus

Hymnal S130

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the Name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

The Celebrant continues

Glory and honor and praise to you, holy and living God. To deliver us from the power of sin and death and to reveal the riches of your grace, you looked with favor



Music: From Deutsche Messe, Franz Peter Schubert (1797-1828); arr. Richard Proulx (b. 1937). Copyright ⊕ 1985 GIA

upon Mary, your willing servant, that she might conceive and bear a son, Jesus the holy child of God. Living among us, Jesus loved us. He broke bread with outcasts and sinners, healed the sick, and proclaimed good news to the poor. He yearned to draw all the world to himself yet we were heedless of his call to walk in love. Then, the time came for him to complete upon the cross the sacrifice of his life, and to be glorified by you.

On the night before he died for us, Jesus was at table with his friends. He took bread, gave thanks to you, broke it, and gave it to them, and said: "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

As supper was ending, Jesus took the cup of wine.

Again, he gave thanks to you, gave it to them, and said:

"Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is poured out for you and for all for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Now gathered at your table, O God of all creation, and remembering Christ, crucified and risen, who was and is and is to come, we offer to you our gifts of bread and wine, and ourselves, a living sacrifice.

Pour out your Spirit upon these gifts that they may be the Body and Blood of Christ. Breathe your Spirit over the whole earth and make us your new creation, the Body of Christ given for the world you have made.

In the fullness of time bring us, with all your saints, from every tribe and language and people and nation, to feast at the banquet prepared from the foundation of the world.

Through Christ and with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, to you be honor, glory, and praise, for ever and ever. **AMEN**.

The Lord's Prayer

And now, as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

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, for ever and ever. Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

We break this bread to share in the Body of Christ.

We who are many are one body, for we all share in the one bread.

Communion

You do not need to be a member of this church or of any church to receive communion.

To receive the sacrament, come forward and stand or kneel at the rail. The wine is received by intinction, by dipping the wafer into the chalice. Please let the clergy know if you require a **gluten-free wafer**. To indicate that you would prefer a **blessing only**, cross your arms across your chest.

If you are unable to come forward, please notify an usher and the sacrament will be brought to you.

Music at Communion Ten Thousand Reasons

Myrin and Redman

Please stand as you are able.

sung by Kayla and Seve Crann

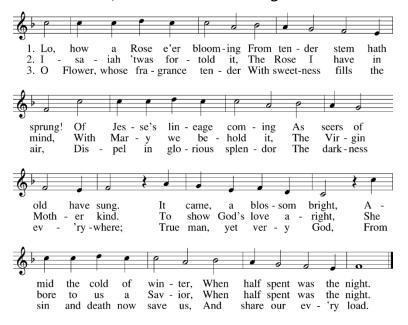
Prayer after Communion

Loving God, we give you thanks for restoring us in your image and nourishing us with spiritual food in the Sacrament of Christ's Body and Blood. Now send us forth a people, forgiven, healed, renewed; that we may proclaim your love to the world and continue in the risen life of Christ our Savior. Amen.

Closing Hymn

Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming

Gather 373



Text: Isaiah 11:1; Es ist ein 'Ros' entsprungen; Speier Gesangbuch, 1599; tr. sts. 1-2 by Theodore Baker, 1851-1934; st. 3, The Hymnal, 1940 Tune: ES IST EIN' ROS' ENSTSPRUNGEN, 7 6 7 6 6 7 6; Geistliche Kirchengesang, Cologne, 1599; harm. by Michael Praetorius, 1571-1621

Dismissal

Deacon Alleluia! Alleluia! Let us go forth anticipating our celebration of Christ's birth by doing his work in

our world.

People We will with God's help. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Please join us for coffee hour following our Sunday morning service!

MINISTERS OF THE SERVICE

Presider

The Rev. Kyle Carswell

Deacon

The Rev. Jeanie Smith

Organist

Don Agee

Acolytes

Mary McGill, Ashlyn Rounceville, Lillie McManus

Chalice Bearer

Molly McGill, Lucy Luft

Lector/Litanists

Liz Brennan, Elizabeth Slocum, Bill Smith, Max McGill

Oblation Bearers

Luke Luft, Marcy Luft

Ushers

Larry Shea, OPEN

Altar Guild

Marty Wells, Priscilla Sayeed

Livestream Coordinator

Neil Guy

Offering Counters

Scott Brennan, Randy Pettit

Vestry Representative

Jacob Nastruz

2nd OFFERING PARTNER



The Angel Tree & St. Timothy's Faith & Food Fund

Once again, we "adopted" 9 families to purchase gifts for, and once again, all family members have been "adopted!" We are excited to collect and deliver their gifts! Please remember to bring your wrapped gifts next Sunday morning, December 22nd, in preparation for delivery.

Financial gifts collected in our 2nd Offering will go to our Faith & Food Fund, which allows us to assist individuals with immediate needs throughout the year. If you would like to help support this ministry financially, you can do so at: sttimothysiowa.org/donate

COMING UP

THE COMING WEEK

Monday, December 16

1 pm Casserole Baking5:30 pm Finance Team Meeting6:30 pm Scouts

Wednesday, December 18

11:30 am Men's Lunch at Palmer's6 pm Pageant Practice6:30 pm Wednesday Night Connect7 pm Choir Rehearsal

Thursday, December 19

9:30 am Bible Study
11:30 am Ladies Who Lunch
5 pm YJI
6 pm 3rd Thursday at Big Grove Brewery

Friday, December 20

10 am Books, Brew & Banter

Saturday, December 21

9 am Centering Prayer5 pm Service of Remembrance & Hope

Sunday, December 22

8:45 am Childcare Available 9 am Pageant Practice 9:15 am Christian Formation for 5th Grade-Adult 10:15 am Christmas Pageant Service NO CHILDREN LIVING THE WORD Decorate for Christmas following worship



3rd THURSDAY

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 19 | 6-8PM BIG GROVE BREWERY, 555 17TH ST., DES MOINES

It's our last gathering of 2024! We hope you'll join us for fun & frivolity! You can even wear your ugly Christmas sweater...

Questions? Please contact Sarah Bunch at: sj.bunch626@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS AT ST. TIMOTHY'S

SERVICE OF REMEMBRANCE & HOPE

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 21 | 5 PM

On the longest night of the year, we remember that it is often difficult to grieve during a season when everyone else is celebrating. In this solemn service, we will commemorate our loved ones who have died, acknowledge the challenge of celebrating the holidays when we are in pain, and hear again the hope of the gospel message.

CHRISTMAS PAGEANT SERVICE

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 22 | 10:15 AM

During our normal service time on Sunday the 22nd, our children will tell the Christmas story through a Christmas pageant, followed by communion.

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 24 | 5 PM & 9 PM

We will ring in the joy of Christmas with two Christmas Eve services filled with carols, the reading of the Christmas story from Luke's Gospel, communion, and concluding with the traditional singing of "Silent Night" by candlelight. The 5 pm service will be more kid-friendly, with fewer readings and a children's sermon alongside a shortened "adult" sermon. The 9 pm service will include the full set of readings, full sermon, and a full choir.

CHRISTMAS DAY SERVICE AT ST. PAUL'S CATHEDRAL

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 25 | 10 AM

We will not hold a Christmas Day service at St. Timothy's this year. Instead, we encourage those interested in attending a service on the 25th to attend worship at St. Paul's, Des Moines (815 High Street).

FIRST SUNDAY OF CHRISTMAS

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28 | 5 PM SUNDAY, DECEMBER 29 | 10:15 AM

On the weekend after Christmas we will conduct our service using the Book of Common Prayer rather than a bulletin.

All Advent & Christmas Services at St. Timothy's will be live-streamed.

VISIT OUR YOUTUBE CHANNEL TO VIEW CURRENT AND PAST RECORDINGS:

@StTimothyslowa

