

MORNING WORSHIP CELEBRATION
The Lord's Day – Third Sunday of Advent
December 12, 2021
10:30 a.m.

Welcome & Announcements: Pastor Jeff Birch

Lighting of the Advent Candle: Bill & Luciann McCartney

Prelude: Miss Olivia Bellefeuille, piano

Silent Night!
By Franz Gruber

Call to Worship: Psalm 95:1-3

The Invocation

***Hymn of Praise 208**

O Come, All Ye Faithful

O come, all ye faithful, joyful and triumphant,
O come ye, O come ye to Bethlehem;
Come and behold him, born the King of angels;

(Chorus)

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

God of God, Light of Light;
Lo, he abhors not the Virgin's womb;
Very God, begotten, not created; *(Chorus)*

Sing, choirs of angels, sing in exultation,
Sing, all ye citizens of heav'n above:
Glory to God in the highest; *(Chorus)*

Yea, Lord, we greet thee, born this happy morning;
Jesus, to thee be all glory giv'n;
Word of the Father, late in flesh appearing; *(Chorus)*

The Confession of Faith: The Heidelberg Catechism, 1 & 2

Pastor: What is your only comfort in life and death?

People: **That I am not my own, but belong—body and soul, in life and in death, to my faithful Savior Jesus Christ. He has fully paid for all my sins with his precious blood, and has set me free from the tyranny of the devil. He also watches over me in such a way that not a hair can fall from my head without the will of my Father in heaven: in fact, all things must work together for my salvation. Because I belong to him, Christ,**

by his Holy Spirit, assures me of eternal life and makes me wholeheartedly willing and ready from now on to live for him.

Pastor: What must you know to live and die in the joy of this comfort?

People: **Three things: first, how great my sin and misery are; second, how I am set free from all my sins and misery; third, how I am to thank God for such deliverance.**

***Song of Praise 224**

Go, Tell It on the Mountain

(Chorus)

Go, tell it on the mountain,
Over the hills and everywhere;
Go, tell it on the mountain
That Jesus Christ is born!

While shepherds kept their watching
O're silent flocks by night,
Behold, throughout the heavens
There shone a holy light. *(Chorus)*

The shepherds feared and trembled when,
Lo! above the earth
Rang out the angel chorus
That hailed our Savior's birth. *(Chorus)*

Down in a lowly manger
Our humble Christ was born,
And God sent us salvation
That blessed Christmas morn. *(Chorus)*

The Lord's Prayer / Pastoral Prayer

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Offertory

Chancel Choir

All Praise to Thee

By Elaine Hagenberg

***Doxology**

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

(During this song, children ages 4-6 may go to Children's Worship)

Sermon Series: Hope According to Isaiah
Sermon Text: Isaiah 61:1-11 (ESV)
Sermon Title: Jesus' Manifesto

*The Spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me,
because the LORD has anointed me
to bring good news to the poor;
he has sent me to bind up the brokenhearted,
to proclaim liberty to the captives,
and the opening of the prison to those who are bound;
2 to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor,
and the day of vengeance of our God;
to comfort all who mourn;
3 to grant to those who mourn in Zion—
to give them a beautiful headdress instead of ashes,
the oil of gladness instead of mourning,
the garment of praise instead of a faint spirit;
that they may be called oaks of righteousness,
the planting of the LORD, that he may be glorified.
4 They shall build up the ancient ruins;
they shall raise up the former devastations;
they shall repair the ruined cities,
the devastations of many generations.
5 Strangers shall stand and tend your flocks;
foreigners shall be your plowmen and vinedressers;
6 but you shall be called the priests of the LORD;
they shall speak of you as the ministers of our God;
you shall eat the wealth of the nations,
and in their glory you shall boast.
7 Instead of your shame there shall be a double portion;
instead of dishonor they shall rejoice in their lot;
therefore in their land they shall possess a double portion;
they shall have everlasting joy.
8 For I the LORD love justice;
I hate robbery and wrong;
I will faithfully give them their recompense,
and I will make an everlasting covenant with them.
9 Their offspring shall be known among the nations,
and their descendants in the midst of the peoples;
all who see them shall acknowledge them,
that they are an offspring the LORD has blessed.
10 I will greatly rejoice in the LORD;
my soul shall exult in my God,
for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation;
he has covered me with the robe of righteousness,
as a bridegroom decks himself like a priest with a beautiful headdress,
and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels.*

*11 For as the earth brings forth its sprouts,
and as a garden causes what is sown in it to sprout up,
so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise
to sprout up before all the nations.*

We all get engrossed whenever we hear the inaugural address of a new president. In the speech the new president will typically lay out his agenda for his administration, a manifesto, if you will, of what he is all about and what he intends to accomplish. In Isaiah 61 we have a manifesto laid out for us, that we find out in Luke 4 is the manifesto of Jesus. In Luke 4 Jesus is beginning his ministry and reads from Isaiah 61 and proceeds to state, *“Today this Scripture has been fulfilled in your hearing”* (Luke 4:21).

Thus, Isaiah gives us a picture of what will be Jesus’ manifesto. And in doing so he shows us what is wrong with us and what Jesus will do about it. Thus, we get a pretty good idea of what Jesus’ program is all about. What do we learn in this passage concerning Jesus’ manifesto?

- I. Why We Need Jesus’ Manifesto
- II. What Is Jesus’ Manifesto
- III. How to Live Jesus’ Manifesto

I pray that our program and ministry as a church will be Jesus’ program. May we be on the same page as Jesus.

Reflection

“One cannot be a missionary church and continue insisting that the world must come to the church on the church’s terms. It must become a “go” structure. And it can do that only when its concerns are directed outside itself toward the poor, the abused, and the oppressed. The church must recapture its identity as the only organization in the world that exists for the sake of its nonmembers.” (Harvie Conn, *Evangelism: Doing Justice and Preaching Grace*)

The Celebration of the Lord’s Supper

***Hymn 193**

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Let all mortal flesh keep silence,
And with fear and trembling stand;
Ponder nothing earthly-minded,
For with blessing in his hand,
Christ our God to earth descendeth,
Our full homage to demand.

King of kings, yet born of Mary,
As of old on earth he stood;
Lord of lords, in human vesture,
In the body and the blood,
He will give to all the faithful
His own self for heav'nly food.

Rank on rank the host of heaven
Spreads its vanguard on the way,
As the Light of light descendeth
From the realms of endless day,
That the pow'rs of hell may vanish
As the darkness clears away.

At his feet the six-winged seraph;
Cherubim, with sleepless eye,
Veil their faces to the presence,
As with ceaseless voice they cry,
"Alleluia, alleluia,
Alleluia, Lord Most High!"

***The Benediction**

Postlude

**All songs covered by CCLI license #1257045*