

# THE LORD’S DAY

The Third Sunday of Advent \* December 14, 2025

## THE RESURRECTION GREETING AND RESPONSE

Pastor: Peace be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

## GOD CALLS US

### ✠ THE CALL TO WORSHIP

Luke 1:68-75: *The Benedictus*

Pastor: Praise be to the Lord, the God of Israel,

**People: He has come to his people and redeemed us.**

Pastor: He has raised up for us a mighty Savior,

**People: Just as he promised through his holy prophets.**

Pastor: He has come to save us from our enemies;

**People: To show mercy to our ancestors,**

Pastor: And to remember his holy covenant—

**People: The oath he swore to our Father Abraham,**

Pastor: So that we might serve him without fear,

**People: In holiness and righteousness before him all our days.**

### ✠ INVOCATION

### ✠ THE SONG OF PRAISE

#### WE THREE KINGS

We three kings of orient are; Bearing gifts, we traverse afar  
Field and fountain, moor and mountain; Following yonder star\*

\*Chorus: O--, Star of wonder, star of night; Star with royal beauty bright  
Westward leading still proceeding; Guide us to thy perfect light

Born a King of Bethlehem’s plain; Gold, I bring to crown Him again  
King forever, ceasing never; Over us all to reign\*

Myrrh have I, it’s bitter perfume; Breathes a life of gathering gloom  
Sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying; Sealed in the stone-cold tomb\*

Glorious now behold Him arise; King and God of sacrifice  
Alleluia, alleluia; Sounds through the earth and skies\*

### ✠ THE HYMN OF PRAISE #208

O COME, ALL YE FAITHFUL

## GOD CLEANSSES US

### THE PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Dietrich Bonhoeffer

Lord Jesus, come Yourself, and dwell with us, be human as we are, and overcome what overwhelms us. Come into the midst of our evil, come close to our unfaithfulness. Take our sin, which we hate and which we cannot leave. Be our brother, Thou Holy God. Come with us in our death, come with us in our suffering, come with us as we struggle with evil. Make us holy and pure.

### THE PROMISE OF FORGIVENESS

Matthew 1:21-23

“Mary will give birth to a son, and you are to give him the name Jesus, because He will save His people from their sins.” All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: “The virgin will be with child and will give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel”—which means, “God with us.”

## GOD CONSECRATES US

### THE TITHES AND OFFERINGS<sup>1</sup>

#### CHILDREN’S CHOIR

Directed by Anna Carl

Piano, Siri Wilmoth

Glockenspiel, Will McAfee

#### DING, DONG MERRILY ON HIGH<sup>2</sup>

### ✠ THE 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

### THE PASTORAL PRAYER

#### THE LORD’S 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. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

### THE READING OF SCRIPTURE

Reader: The Word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

### THE PREACHING OF SCRIPTURE

1 Samuel 26:1-11

Pastor Bryan Clark

#### THE RISK OF CHRISTMAS

## GOD COMMUNES WITH US

### THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER<sup>3</sup>

### THE SONG OF MEDITATION

## GOD COMMISSIONS US

### ✠ THE HYMN OF PRAISE #224

GO, TELL IT ON THE MOUNTAIN

### ✠ THE BENEDICTION

<sup>1</sup>A wooden box is at the back to receive offerings or there are other options in announcements.

<sup>2</sup>”Ding Dong Merrily on High” Public Domain, arr. By Ruth Morris Gray

<sup>3</sup>Bread or rice crackers and wine (darker) or grape juice (lighter) are available.

✠ Denotes congregation stands.