

New Hope Lutheran Church
December 11, 2022
Gaudete
The Third Sunday in Advent



*. . . the blind receive their sight, and the lame walk,
the lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear,
and the dead are raised up,
and the poor have good tidings preached to them.*

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**NEW HOPE IS A CONGREGATION GATHERED AROUND CHRIST
WE RECEIVE HIS FORGIVENESS IN WORD AND SACRAMENT;
WE PROCLAIM CHRIST CRUCIFIED AND RISEN;
WE SHARE OUR BLESSINGS WITH OTHERS**

Wel come!

We're glad you've joined us as we gather to receive God's gifts of forgiveness, life, and salvation. We gather because we desperately need the forgiveness Jesus won for us by His life, death, and resurrection. As you prepare for the Divine Service today, you are invited to pray the prayers inside the front cover of your hymnal. As you prepare for communion, please read the statement on page 9.

Confession and Absolution

Stand

Hymn of Invocation: 349 Hark the Glad Sound

The sign of the cross may be made by all in remembrance of their Baptism.

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

P If we say we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us.

C **But if we confess our sins, God, who is faithful and just, will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P Let us then confess our sins to God our Father.

C **Most merciful God, we confess that we are by nature sinful and unclean. We have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done and by what we have left undone. We have not loved You with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We justly deserve Your present and eternal punishment. For the sake of Your Son, Jesus Christ, have mercy on us. Forgive us, renew us, and lead us, so that we may delight in Your will and walk in Your ways to the glory of Your holy name. Amen.**

P Almighty God in His mercy has given His Son to die for you and for His sake forgives you all your sins. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, and by His authority, I therefore forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

Service of the Word

Introit (*Congregation sings text in bold.*)

Psalm 85:1–2, 6, 8; antiphon: Philippians 4:4–5



Rejoice in the Lord | always; *
again I will | say, Rejoice.

Let your reasonableness be known to | everyone.*

The Lord | is at hand.

LORD, you were favorable | to your land; *
you restored the fortunes of | Jacob.

**You forgave the iniquity of your | people; *
you covered | all their sin.**

Will you not revive | us again, *
that your people may re- | joice in you?

Let me hear what God the | LORD will speak, *

for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints; but let them not turn back to | folly.

**Glorify be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;**

**as it was in the be- | ginning, *
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.**

Rejoice in the Lord | always; *
again I will | say, Rejoice.

Let your reasonableness be known to | everyone.*
The Lord | is at hand.

Kyrie

LSB 152

A In peace let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace from above and for our salvation let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For the peace of the whole world, for the well-being of the Church of God, and for the unity of all let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

A For this holy house and for all who offer here their worship and praise let us pray to the Lord.



C Lord, have mer - cy.

A Help, save, comfort, and defend us, gracious Lord.



C A - men.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Let us pray.

Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



C A - men.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 40:1–11

¹Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.

²Speak tenderly to Jerusalem,
and cry to her

that her warfare is ended,
that her iniquity is pardoned,
that she has received from the LORD's hand
double for all her sins.

³A voice cries:

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

⁴Every 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.

⁵And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.”

⁶A voice says, “Cry!”

And I said, “What shall I cry?”

All flesh is grass,
and all its beauty is like the flower of the field.

⁷The grass withers, the flower fades
when the breath of the LORD blows on it;
surely the people are grass.

⁸The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the word of our God will stand forever.

⁹Get 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, fear not;

say to the cities of Judah,
“Behold your God!”

¹⁰Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might,
and his arm rules for him;
behold, his reward is with him,
and his recompense before him.

¹¹He will tend his flock like a shepherd;
he will gather the lambs in his arms;
he will carry them in his bosom,
and gently lead those that are with young.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gradual (*Congregation sings text in bold.*)

Psalm 80:1-2



You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, | shine forth.*

Stir up your might and come to | save us!

Give ear, O Shepherd of | Israel,*

you who lead Joseph | like a flock!

Epistle

1 Corinthians 4:1-5

¹This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. ²Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. ³But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. ⁴I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. ⁵Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

LSB 156



C Al - le - lu - ia. Lord, to whom shall we go? You have the



words of e - ter - nal life. Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia.

Holy Gospel

Matthew 11:2-11

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.



C Glo - ry to You, O Lord.

²When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?” ⁴And Jesus

answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. ⁶And blessed is the one who is not offended by me.”

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings’ houses. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is he of whom it is written,

“Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.’”

¹¹Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.



C Praise to You, O Christ.

Nicene Creed

C I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life \dagger of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Hymn of the Day: 345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding

Sermon

Stand

Prayer of the Church

Offering (*Offerings placed in the plates at the sanctuary doors will be carried forward during the singing of the offertory below. Plates will still be available near the sanctuary doors for those who wish to offer their gifts to the Lord following the service.*)

Offertory

LSB 159



What shall I ren-der to the Lord for all His ben-e-fits to



me? I will of - fer the sac-ri-fice of thanks-giv - ing and will



call on the name of the Lord. I will take the cup of sal-



va - tion and will call on the name of the Lord. I will pay my



vows to the Lord now in the pres-ence of all His peo-ple, in the



courts of the Lord's house, in the midst of you, O Je - ru - sa - lem.

Service of the Sacrament

God's Word states that in the Lord's Supper Jesus offers His true body and blood for the forgiveness of sins (Matt. 26:28), that partaking of this Supper together is a confession of our unity in faith (1 Cor. 10:16–17) and that the body and blood of Jesus can be received to one's harm (1 Cor. 11:27–32). Out of love for those who commune, New Hope Lutheran Church communes only those who

- 1. Have been taught and examined in the Christian faith,*
- 2. Confess their sins and trust in Christ for forgiveness,*
- 3. Have made a public confession of their agreement with us in this one Scriptural faith through membership in this congregation or another congregation of the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod.*
- 4. Have spoken with the pastor prior to the service regarding communion.*

If you are not a communicant member of New Hope or another LCMS congregation, you are invited to come up for a blessing; please cross your arms during the distribution.

Preface

LSB 160

P The Lord be with you.



C And al - so with you.

P Lift up your hearts.



C We lift them to the Lord.

P Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.



C It is right to give Him thanks and praise.

P It is truly good, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 161



C Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow'r and might:
Heav-en and earth are full of Your glo-ry. Ho - san-na. Ho -
san-na. Ho - san - na in the high-est. Bless-ed is He who
comes in the name of the Lord. Ho-san-na in the high - est.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

LSB 161

- P** Blessed are You.... one God, now and forever.
C Amen.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 162

- P** Lord, remember us in Your kingdom and teach us to pray:
C Our Father...

The Words of Our Lord

Pax Domini

LSB 163

- P** The peace of the Lord be with you always.



C A - men.

Agnus Dei

LSB 163



C Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have

mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; have mer-cy on us. Lamb of God, You take a-way the sin of the world; grant us peace.

Sit

Distribution Hymns: 334 O Lord, How Shall I Meet You

556 Dear Christians, One and All, Rejoice

346 When All the World Was Cursed

737 Rejoice, My Heart, Be Glad and Sing

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 165

Lord, now You let Your ser-vant go in peace; Your word has been fulfilled. My own eyes have seen the sal - va-tion which You have prepared in the sight of ev - 'ry peo - ple: A light to re-veal You to the na-tions and the glo-ry of Your peo-ple Is - ra - el.



Post-Communion Collect

- A** Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift, and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith toward You and in fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.



Benediction

LSB 166

- P** The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and ✠ give you peace.



Hymn to Depart: 333 Once He Came in Blessing

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New Hope News and Notes



December 4, 2022 Stewardship

Attendance: Divine Service: 54; Bible Study/Sunday School: 18
 Giving: General Fund: \$3,042 (Amount needed weekly: \$2,967)
 Mortgage: \$325 (Remaining Debt: \$43,268)

Upcoming Events

Today, December 11	New Member Welcome Lunch, 11:30 am New Testament Class, Conf. Rm, Noon
Wednesday, December 14	Advent Dinner, 6 pm Advent Evening Prayer, 7 pm
Sunday, December 18	Adult Bible Study/Sunday School, 8:45 am Divine Service, 10:00 am New Testament Class, Conf. Rm, 11:30 am

IN OUR PRAYERS:

Birthdays: Ava Schlemmer – Dec. 11; Carol Schumacher – Dec. 17.

Military personnel: Denver Burkley (grandson of Joey Septer), Ethan Bearman (cousin of Randy Buuck).

Members and catechumens of our congregation: Marilyn Kimmel, Leona Meyer, Nancy Small, Keith Fuller, Marjorie Johnson, Don Milholland, Janet Fuller, John Hartup, Lee Ann Siples, Carol Schumacher, Chris Alfeld, Bryce Bowman, David Hoopengardner

Friends and family of the members of our congregation: Rev. Paul Doehrmann; Susan Gaines; Alice Jacobs; Makenzie Webb (granddaughter of Carol Schumacher); Robin Graham (friend of Randy and Diana Buuck); Don Hockemeyer (friend of Dara Phillips), Tom Schlemmer (uncle of Erik Schlemmer); Lynne Kuzeff (sister-in-law of Jeani Klaus); Charles Brown (brother of Sue Hansen); Cole Parker (friend of Tad Steckbeck); Angela and Joanna Daniel (Nieces of John and Karen Peck); Brian Shelton; Darlean Schell; Stanley High (son-in-law of Karan Shell); Sherry Bearman (cousin of Bonnie Brandewie); Linda Strait (friend of Diane Garrett); Karen Gerbers (friend of Jeani Klaus); Ann Thomas (friend of Karan Shell).

LIFE QUOTE “Hang on to Jesus, my dear friend. In Him and Him alone is true life—both now and forever. Though God’s work in the world may be hard to understand sometimes, we rejoice and celebrate as we look forward to all that He has in store for us.” *Rev. Dr. Oswald Hoffman, The Lutheran Hour – A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • lutheransforlife.org* “Hurting from abortion? Word of Hope can help. word-of-hope.org; 888-217-8679.”

PATHS TO LUTHERANISM SERIES... You can listen to stories of guests who have come to Lutheranism from Islam, Mormonism, Atheism, Agnosticism, Eastern Orthodoxy, Roman Catholicism, Pentecostalism and more. You'll find the series at issuesetc.org/pathstolutheranism.

UNANSWERED BIBLE QUESTIONS... Issues, Etc., a radio-talk show and podcast produced by Lutheran Public Radio, will have Pastors Bryan Wolfmueller and Brian Kachelmeier respond to your unanswered Bible questions. You can submit your question via email: talkback@issuesetc.org; Facebook: facebook.com/issuesetc; or the Issues, Etc. Comment Line: (618) 223-8382. You can listen to the interview at your convenience at issuesetc.org, the LPR mobile app and your favorite podcast provider.

SUBSCRIBE TO THE LUTHERAN WITNESS – Keep up with news, find answers to difficult questions, and learn more about what we believe, teach, and confess with a Lutheran Witness subscription. For only \$19 you can have a year subscription (11 issues) sent to your home or delivered to your church mailbox. Sign up on the clipboard next to the serving window in the gym. Large print edition also available.

THRIVENT CARDS NEEDED – If you own Thrivent products and have not used both of your \$250 Thrivent Action Cards, please consider using them to provide refreshments for the Dec. 20 Preschool Christmas Program. If you are able to contribute a Thrivent Action Card, please sign up on the sheet in the gym.

SUBSTITUTE TEACHERS NEEDED to teach from 8:45 to 9:45 am on Sunday mornings in early January, March, April, and May. If you are able to teach on any Sundays in those months, please sign up on the sheet in the gym.

SUNDAYS AT OSSIAN HEALTH CARE - 1 PM – Every other Sunday, New Hope provides a service for the residents of Ossian Health Care. Please join us and visit these residents (some of whom are members of our congregation). Upcoming Sundays include December 18, January 1, 15, and 29.

INVITE A FRIEND - Please see your church mailbox for a printed flyer that you can post in a public place or give to a friend to invite them to our church for Advent and Christmas.

TODAY IS MITE SUNDAY. Place your offering in the basket marked mites on the stands at the sanctuary doors

DEC. 14 and 21 – WEDNESDAY SERVICES AND DINNERS – Please join us for Advent evening prayer services at 7 pm Dec. 7, 14, and 21. A light meal will be served before the service at 6 pm. The theme of this year’s Advent series is “Creation and New Creation in Christ.” We will be looking primarily at God’s creation and preservation of the world and what that means for our lives today.

UPCOMING CHRISTMAS SERVICES - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service, 7 pm; Christmas Day Divine Service, 10 am; New Year’s Eve Divine Service, 7 pm

POINSETTIAS AND INSTRUMENTALISTS– Please consider purchasing and donating a poinsettia for the Christmas season or donating funds to pay for instrumentalists or poinsettias on Christmas Eve. Monetary donations may be placed in the offering plate with a note on the envelope indicating whether it is for instrumentalists or poinsettias.

SERVING THE BODY OF CHRIST:

December 11

Pastor: Rev. Daniel Burfiend
Fieldworkers – Sem. Cody Schrepferman,
Sem. Kjetil Homdal
Organist: Amy Schueler
Elder: Tony Bauermeister
Altar Guild: Tina Bauermeister,
Sue Hansen
Coffee Hour: Welcome Lunch
Sound: Erik Schlemmer
Ushers: John Peck and Theo Burfiend

December 18 - *Lord willing*

Pastor: Rev. Daniel Burfiend
Fieldworkers – Sem. Cody Schrepferman,
Sem. Kjetil Homdal
Organist: Amy Schueler
Elder: Terry Bauermeister
Altar Guild: Bonnie Brandewie
Coffee Hour:
Sound: Randy Buuck
Ushers: Terry and Nathan Bauermeister

From Martin Luther’s Sermon for the Third Sunday in Advent

Matthew 11:2-10

24. The other word of God is neither law nor commandments, and demands nothing of us. But when that has been done by the first word, namely the law, and has worked deep despair and wretchedness in our hearts, then God comes and offers us His blessed and life-giving word and promises; He pledges and obligates Himself to grant grace and help in order to deliver us from misery, not only to pardon all our sins, but even to blot them out, and in addition to this, to create in us love and delight in keeping his law.

26. Now, the word Gospel is of Greek origin and signifies in German *Froliche Botschaft*, that is glad tidings, because it proclaims the blessed doctrine of life eternal by divine promise, and offers grace and forgiveness of sin. Therefore, works do not belong to the Gospel, as it is not a law; only faith belongs to it, as it is altogether a promise and an offer of divine grace. Whosoever now believes the Gospel will receive grace and the Holy Spirit. This will cause the heart to rejoice and find delight in God, and will enable the believer to keep the law cheerfully, without expecting reward, without fear of punishment, without seeking compensation, as the heart is perfectly satisfied with God's grace, by which the law has been fulfilled.

The Sundays in Advent

“Advent is a season of prayer preparation, of making ready for the coming of our King. As He came in Prophecy, so also He has indeed come already in the Flesh. He comes now in His Means of Grace, given us to keep and preserve us steadfast in faith until His Coming in Glory.

*“Advent begins with the account of the Triumphal Entry of our Lord into Jerusalem (**Ad Te Levavi**, Matthew 21:1-9), marking our entrance into a new year of God's Grace. The King comes! As the budding fig tree alerts all to the coming summer, so do we see the signs of the imminent coming of our Lord (**Populus Zion**, Luke 21:25-33). John the Baptizer sees the signs even through prison bars as the blind see and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, the dead are raised and the poor have the Gospel preached to them, bringing hope in the midst of penitent preparation (**Gaudete**, Matthew 11:2-10), fulfilling the prophecy of Isaiah. And St. John, the Forerunner, who makes straight the Way of the Lord as he calls the people to repentance, promises One who is preferred before him will come after him, One who will come soon (**Rorate Coeli**, John 1:19-28). Repent, for the King comes!”*

(Reflection above provided by Zion Lutheran, Detroit, MI)

The titles for each Sunday in Advent are from the first words of the Latin Introit for that Sunday. In the church, these Sundays have come to be referred to by the first words of their Latin Introit, just as we refer to the canticles (Kyrie, Gloria in Excelsis, Agnus Dei, Nunc Dimittis) by the first words of their Latin text. “Ad Te Levavi” means “to You I have lifted up.” “Populus Zion” means “people of Zion.” “Gaudete” means “rejoice.” “Rorate Coeli” means “drop down, ye heavens.”

The color for the Advent season is purple, which reminds us of our need to confess our sin and receive forgiveness. This season of repentance helps us prepare for the celebration of our Lord's incarnation at Christmas (Source: Luther's Small Catechism with Explanation, (St. Louis: Concordia, 2017), 377).