



**Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church – ELCA**

*Gathering, Growing and Giving, we encourage faith and proclaiming God's love."*

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

*Service of the Word*

Dec. 13<sup>th</sup> 2020

**NOTE: Bold text indicates worshippers' response, and \*' means please stand as able**

PRELUDE

Jennifer Kinblom

WELCOME & MINISTRY MESSAGES

GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Inspired by Psalm 126*)

ONE: The Bible reminds us of how you God, have fulfilled your promises and rescued your people.

**ALL: You restored the fortunes of Jerusalem, and they were overjoyed, their mouths filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy.**

ONE: Then they said among the nations, "The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad."

**ALL: Today we cry out to you Lord, please restore our lives to what they were before COVID-19. We will be overjoyed and our mouths filled with laughter when this happens.**

ONE: But until this happens, we can still tell the nation, "The Lord has done great things for us, and we are glad."

\* P: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all. **And also with you.**

\* PRAYER OF THE DAY Stir up the wills of your faithful people, **Lord God, and open our ears to the words of your prophets, that, anointed by your Spirit, we may testify to your light; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.** Amen.

CANDLE-LIGHTER: *Light 3 candles (includes pink candle)*

*All sing verse 3 of "One Candle Is Lit," sung to tune of "Away in the Manger"*

Come, festively sing while awaiting the birth,

join angels in dancing from heaven to earth.

Wave banners of good news, lift high thankful praise.

One candle is lit for the joy of these days.

**READER/CONGREGATION**

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God.

**We give thanks to you, O God, for the promise of full joy that this season brings to light.**

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God.

**For all the troubles life can bring, you bring amazing possibilities that fill our hearts with joy.**

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD their God.

**Renew in us this day the promises of light after darkness, day after night, hope after despair, joy in this and every morning, for our trust is in you.**

## GROWING

*Though the people had returned to Jerusalem from exile in Babylon, they continued to face hardship and oppression. In the language of the jubilee year described in Leviticus 25, the prophet, moved by the spirit of God, announces deliverance for those who are oppressed and comfort for those who mourn. A reading from the Prophet Isaiah chapter 61.*

<sup>1</sup>The spirit of the Lord GOD is upon me, because the LORD has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; <sup>2</sup>to proclaim the year of the LORD's favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; <sup>3</sup>to provide for those who mourn in Zion—to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the LORD, to display his glory. <sup>4</sup>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.

<sup>8</sup>For I the LORD love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. <sup>9</sup>Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the LORD has blessed. <sup>10</sup>I will greatly rejoice in the LORD, my whole being 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 with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. <sup>11</sup>For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord GOD will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

*Paul concludes his letter to the Thessalonians by encouraging them to live lives of continual joy, prayer, and thanksgiving. The closing blessing is grounded in the hope of Christ's coming. A reading from 1st Thessalonians, chapter 5*

<sup>16</sup>Rejoice always, <sup>17</sup>pray without ceasing, <sup>18</sup>give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. <sup>19</sup>Do not quench the Spirit. <sup>20</sup>Do not despise the words of prophets, <sup>21</sup>but test everything; hold fast to what is good; <sup>22</sup>abstain from every form of evil.

<sup>23</sup>May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>24</sup>The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this. The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

MUSIC TO MEDITATE ON *Listen and be filled with God's peace.*

Pastor Mary Eide

Jennifer Kinblom

## GIVING

\*THE APOSTLES' CREED (*professed together*)

**I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord. He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit and born of the virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into hell.\* On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven, and is seated at the right hand of the Father. He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen**

*\*Or, He descended to the dead.*

**NOTE: Giving to support God's ministry at Shepherd of the Hill can be mailed in – OR - go to GIVE tab on our website ([www.sothem.org](http://www.sothem.org)) to make a one time or reoccurring donation. (Mailing address: 207 University St., Elk Mound, WI 54739**

**\* OFFERING PRAYER** Generous God, **you have created all that is, and you provide for us in every season. Bless all that we offer, that through these gifts the world will receive your blessing. In the name of Jesus, Emmanuel, we pray. Amen.**

**\* PRAYERS** (*Hear us, O God. Your mercy is great.*)

**\* LORD'S PRAYERS** **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, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**\* ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**\* BLESSING** The Creator of the stars bless your Advent waiting, the long-expected Savior fill you with love, the unexpected Spirit guide your journey, **✝** now and forever. **Amen.**

**\* LBW #35/ELW #239 SENDING HYMN** "*Hark the Glad Sound* verses 1, 3 & 4 next page

**DISMISSAL** Go in peace. Prepare the way of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

**POSTLUDE**

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today	10:00am	- Worship
Monday	7pm	- AA Meeting
Tuesday:	4-6 pm	- Food Pantry
Wednesday	2pm	- LIVE with God on Facebook
	6pm	- Confirmation Zoom class
Friday:	10 am-12pm	- Food Pantry
NEXT SUNDAY	10am	- Worship LIVE on FB
		- Check out our Virtual Sunday School Christmas Program on our website <a href="http://www.sothem.org">www.sothem.org</a>

**LOVE LIGHTS...**honoring and remembering our loved ones, while supporting local kids and local ministry. Find the form to order your Love Lights on our website at [www.sothem.org](http://www.sothem.org)

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Shepherd of the Hill Lutheran Church

207 University Street, Elk Mound, WI 54739

Office Phone: 715-879-5115 Email: [sothlc@sothem.org](mailto:sothlc@sothem.org)

Website [www.sothem.org](http://www.sothem.org) Find us on Facebook, too!

Pastor Mary Eide (H) 715-309-4065 [meide@luthersem.edu](mailto:meide@luthersem.edu)

Custodian, Terry Stamm 715-379-3728

Sunday School Coordinators: Chris Miller at [chrisbenelli.miller@gmail.com](mailto:chrisbenelli.miller@gmail.com) or Jaime Folczyk [mjfolczyk@yahoo.com](mailto:mjfolczyk@yahoo.com)

## Hark, the Glad Sound!

1 Hark, the glad sound! The Sav - ior comes, the Sav - ior  
2 He comes the pris - 'ners to re - lease, in Sa - tan's  
3 He comes the bro - ken heart to bind, the bleed - ing  
4 Our glad ho - san - nas, Prince of peace, your wel - come

prom - ised long; let ev - 'ry heart pre -  
bond - age held. The gates of brass be -  
soul to cure, and with the trea - sures  
shall pro - claim, and heav'n's e - ter - nal

pare a throne and ev - 'ry voice a song.  
fore him burst, the i - ron fet - ters yield.  
of his grace to en - rich the hum - ble poor.  
arch - es ring with your be - lov - ed name.

Text: Philip Doddridge, 1702-1751

Music: CHESTERFIELD, Thomas Haweis, 1734-1820