



***Pilgrim
Lutheran
Church &
School***

Green Bay

1731 St. Agnes
Drive

Worship

Wednesday

7:00 PM

Saturday

5:00 PM

Sunday

7:45 & 9:00 AM

Contemporary

10:30 AM

Suamico

2999 Lakeview Dr.

Worship

Sunday

9:00 AM

Church phone:

(920) 965-2233

School phone:

(920) 965-2244

www.pilgrimpluth.org

Pastors

Scott Malme

Michael Hanson

Traditional

Pilgrim Evangelical Lutheran Church
Order of Worship
Third Sunday in Advent
December 11, 2022



Vengeance and Joy

Welcome to all who gather to worship the Lord this day! The third Sunday of Advent focuses on joy. “Rejoice in the Lord always,” says the apostle Paul (Philippians 4:4). With gladness, we welcome you to worship.

Please sign your name in the Attendance pad at the end of the pew, or register online via the QR code on the right. If you are a guest, please take one of the visitor bags at the *Welcome Center* counter at the front entrance.

As We Gather

Advent is a most joyful time and a time for great praise of our God. Today is the “joyful Sunday” in Advent. With Mary’s beautiful song, the Magnificat, we exult that God has “done great things” and that “His mercy is on those who fear Him from generation to generation” (*LSB*, pp. 248–49). With Mary, we rejoice that God “has shown strength with His arm” especially to those who are lowly and humbled. In his paraphrase of the Magnificat, hymnwriter Stephen Starke invites us to “Sing the greatness of the Lord” and “With praise and blessing Join in confessing God, who is solely Mighty and holy” (*LSB* 933:1). There is so much joy in Advent—it simply must be shared!

Welcome

Memory Verse of the Month: “The earth is the LORD’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it.” (Psalm 24:1)

Opening Hymn: “Hark the Glad Sound” #349

Invocation

Pastor: *In the name of the Father and of the ☩ Son and of the Holy Spirit.*

People: Amen.

Opening Sentences *Psalm 100; 118:24*

Pastor: *This is the day that the LORD has made;*

People: **let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

Pastor: *Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth!*

People: **Serve the LORD with gladness! Come into His presence with singing!**

Pastor: *Know that the LORD, He is God! It is He who made us, and we are His; we are His people, and the sheep of His pasture.*

People: **Enter His gates with thanksgiving, and His courts with praise!**

Pastor: *Give thanks to Him; bless His name!*

People: **For the LORD is good; His steadfast love endures forever, and His faithfulness to all generations.**

Psalm of the Day *Psalm 146*

Pastor: *Praise the LORD!*

People: **Praise the LORD, O my soul!**

Pastor: *I will praise the LORD as long as I live;*

People: **I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.**

Pastor: *Put not your trust in princes,*

People: **in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.**

Pastor: *When his breath departs he returns to the earth;*

People: **on that very day his plans perish.**

Pastor: *Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob,*

People: **whose hope is in the LORD his God,**

Pastor: *who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them,*

People: **who keeps faith forever;**

Pastor: *who executes justice for the oppressed,*

People: **who gives food to the hungry.**

Pastor: *The LORD sets the prisoners free; the LORD opens the eyes of the blind;*

People: **the LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.**

Pastor: *The LORD watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless,*

People: **but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.**

Pastor: *The LORD will reign forever,*

People: **your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!**

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Spirit;

As it was in the beginning, is now, and will be forever. Amen.

Confession and Absolution

Pastor: *Let us now make confession of our sins to God, our heavenly Father.*

People: **Merciful Father, our Lord and King, we have sinned against You in thought, word, and deed. We have left undone those things we ought to have done; we have done those things we ought not to have done. We have not always made Your kingdom of first importance in our lives. We sincerely repent of our sins and humbly ask Your grace and forgiveness in Jesus Christ. By the renewing work of the Holy Spirit, lead us to change what is sinful in our lives that each day we may grow in righteousness and godly living to the glory of Your holy name.**

Pastor: *God is gracious and forgiving. He shows His kingly power in ways that are merciful. To each of us, our Lord says, “Fear not!” and promises pardon, life, and salvation. As a called and ordained servant of Christ, I announce to you the forgiveness of all of your sins in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit. As you believe, so may it be.*

People: Amen.

Prayer for the Day

Pastor: *The Lord be with you.*

People: And also with you.

Pastor: *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.

People: Amen.

Old Testament: *Isaiah 35:1–10* (The desert shall rejoice and blossom.)

Pastor: *This is the Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Anthem (5:00) “Prepare the Way” - Grades 1-2

(7:45, 9:00) “Comfort Ye My People” - “Every Valley Shall Be Exalted”
from *The Messiah*—Matthew Jahnke, tenor

Comfort ye, comfort ye my people, saith your God;

*Speak ye comfortably to Jerusalem, and cry unto her that her warfare is accomplished,
that her iniquity is pardoned.*

*The voice of him that crieth in the wilderness, Prepare ye the way of the Lord,
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.*

*Every valley shall be exalted, and every mountain and hill made low;
the crooked straight, and the rough places plain.*

Epistle: *James 5:7–11* (An encouragement for Christians to wait for the Lord with patience)

Pastor: *This is the Word of the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God.

Holy Gospel: *Matthew 11:2–15* (Jesus speaks about John the Baptist.)

Pastor: *The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.*

People: Glory to You, O Lord.

(The Gospel is read.)

Pastor: *This is the Gospel of the Lord.*

People: Praise to You, O Christ.

Sermon Hymn: “Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding” #345

Sermon: “Patient Joy” *by Pastor Michael Hanson*

Apostles’ Creed

I believe in God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth.

And in Jesus Christ, His only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried. He descended into hell. The third day He rose again from the dead. He ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of God the Father Almighty. From thence He will come to judge the living and the dead.

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

Offering: “*Coins for Christ*” is an important part of the Mission funding at Pilgrim. Through this program all loose coins in the offering plate are donated to a mission project. During December, “Coins for Christ” is supporting **N.E.W. Lutheran High School.**

As the offerings are received, please sign the register in the pews, whether you are a member of Pilgrim Lutheran or a visitor. The person at the end of the pew should start and then pass it along. **Thank you for making worship with us a priority this Lord’s Day.**

Offering Hymn: “The Gifts Christ Freely Gives” #602 v. 1, 2, 4

Prayers of the Church

Pastor: *Almighty God, we give thanks for all Your goodness and bless You for the love that sustains us from day to day. We praise You for the gift of Your Son, our Savior, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins. We thank You for the Holy Spirit, the Comforter; for Your Holy Church, for the Means of Grace, for the lives of all faithful and just people, and for the hope of the life to come. Help us to treasure in our hearts all that You have done for us, and enable us to show our thankfulness in lives that are wholly given to Your service. Lord, in Your mercy,*

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: *Save and defend Your whole Church, purchased with the precious blood of Christ. Strengthen Your faithful people through the Word and the Holy Sacraments, making them perfect in love and in all good works, and establishing in them the faith once delivered to the saints. Lord, in Your mercy,*

People: **hear our prayer.**

Pastor: *Grant Your wisdom and heavenly grace to all pastors and to those who hold office in Your Church that, by their devoted service, faith may abound and Your kingdom increase. Lord, in Your mercy,*

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: *Send the light of Your truth into all the earth. Raise up faithful servants of Christ to advance the Gospel both at home and in distant lands. Lord, in Your mercy,*

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: *In Your mercy, strengthen newly established congregations, and support them in challenging times. Make them steadfast, abounding in the work of the Lord, and let their faith and zeal for the Gospel refresh and renew the witness of Your people everywhere. Lord, in Your mercy,*

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: *Preserve our nation in justice and honor that we may lead a peaceable life with integrity. Grant health and favor to all who bear office in our land, especially the president and congress of the United States, the governor and legislature of this state, and to all those who make, administer, and judge our laws. Help them to serve this people according to Your holy will. Lord, in Your mercy,*

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: *Take from us all hatred and prejudice, give us the spirit of love, and order our days in Your peace. Prosper the labor of those who work to bring peace and justice to the nations of the world that mutual understanding and common endeavor may be increased among all peoples. Lord, in Your mercy,*

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: *Bless the schools of the Church and all colleges, universities, and centers of research and those who teach and work in them. Grant Your wisdom in such measure that people may serve You honorably in Church and state, and that our common life may be conformed to the ways of Your truth. Lord, in Your mercy,*

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: *Sanctify our homes with Your presence, and bless them with joy. Keep our children in the covenant of their Baptism, and enable their parents to bring them up in lives of faith and devotion. Unite the members of all families in a spirit of affection and service that they may show Your praise in our land and in all the world. Lord, in Your mercy,*

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: *Let Your blessing remain upon the seedtime and harvest, the commerce and industry, the leisure and rest, the arts and culture of our people. Take under Your special protection those whose work is difficult or dangerous, and be with all who put their hands to any useful task. Give them the just rewards for their labor and the knowledge that their work is a blessing in Your sight. Lord, in Your mercy,*

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: *By Your Word and Holy Spirit comfort all who are in sorrow or need, sickness or adversity, [especially . . .]. Be with those who suffer persecution for the faith. Have mercy on those to whom death draws near, [especially . . .]. Bring consolation to those in sorrow, and grant to all a measure of Your love, taking them into Your tender care. Lord, in Your mercy,*

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: *We remember with thanksgiving those who have loved and served You in Your Church on earth, who now rest from their labors, [especially . . .]. Keep us in fellowship with all Your saints, and bring us at last to the joys of Your heavenly kingdom. Lord, in Your mercy,*

People: hear our prayer.

Pastor: *All these things and whatever else You know that we need, grant us, Father, for the sake of Him who died and rose again and now lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God forever.*

People: Amen.

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. 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 forever and ever. Amen.

Benediction

Pastor: *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.

People: Amen.

Pastor: *Go in peace. Serve the Lord.*

People: Thanks be to God!

Closing Hymn: "The Lord, My God, Be Praised" #794

Isaiah 35:1-10

35 The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom like the crocus; ² it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing. The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon. They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God. Strengthen the weak hands, and make firm the feeble knees. ⁴ Say to those who have an anxious heart, "Be strong; fear not! Behold, your God will come with vengeance, with the recompense of God. He will come and save you."

⁵ Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; ⁶ then shall the lame man leap like a deer, and the tongue of the mute sing for joy. For waters break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert; ⁷ the burning sand shall become a pool, and the thirsty ground springs of water; in the haunt of jackals, where they lie down, the grass shall become reeds and rushes. ⁸ And a highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Way of Holiness; the unclean shall not pass over it. It shall belong to those who walk on the way; even if they are fools, they shall not go astray. ⁹ No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it; they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there. ¹⁰ And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain gladness and joy, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

James 5:7-11

Patience in Suffering

⁷ Be patient, therefore, brothers, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient about it, until it receives the early and the late rains. ⁸ You also, be patient. Establish your hearts, for the coming of the Lord is at hand. ⁹ Do not grumble against one another, brothers, so that you may not be judged; be-

hold, the Judge is standing at the door. ¹⁰ As an example of suffering and patience, brothers, take the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord. ¹¹ Behold, we consider those blessed who remained steadfast. You have heard of the steadfastness of Job, and you have seen the purpose of the Lord, how the Lord is compassionate and merciful.

Matthew 11:2-15

² Now when John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples ³ and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" ⁴ And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵ the 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. ⁶ And blessed is the one who is not offended by me." ⁷ As 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? ⁸ What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. ⁹ What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰ This is he of whom it is written, "'Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way before you.'" ¹¹ Truly, 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. ¹² From the days of John the Baptist until now the kingdom of heaven has suffered violence, and the violent take it by force. ¹³ For all the Prophets and the Law prophesied until John, ¹⁴ and if you are willing to accept it, he is Elijah who is to come. ¹⁵ He who has ears to hear, let him hear.