

The Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021

The First Reading

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! The LORD has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. The LORD, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the LORD.

After the Reading, the Reader says The Word of the Lord
People Thanks be to God

The First Song of Isaiah

Isaiah 12:2-6

Surely, it is God who saves me; *
I will trust in him and not be afraid.

For the Lord is my stronghold and my sure defense, *
and he will be my Savior.

Therefore you shall draw water with rejoicing *
from the springs of salvation.

And on that day you shall say, *
Give thanks to the Lord and call upon his Name;

Make his deeds known among the peoples; *
see that they remember that his Name is exalted.

Sing the praises of the Lord, for he has done great things, *
and this is known in all the world.

Cry aloud, inhabitants of Zion, ring out your joy, *
for the great one in the midst of you is the Holy One
of Israel.

Glory to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit: *
as it was in the beginning, is now, and will be for ever.
Amen.

The Second Reading

Philippians 4:4-7

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

After the Reading, the Reader says The Word of the Lord
People Thanks be to God

The Gospel Reading

Luke 3:7-18

Before proclaiming the Gospel, the Priest says
The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.
People Glory to you, Lord Christ.

John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Priest: The Gospel of the Lord.
People: Praise to you, Lord Christ.

Announcements

Birthdays this month

1st: Lincoln Randell
 2nd: Susan Schug
 6th: Gloria Akinson
 6th: Janet Whetzel
 14th: Becky Supercinski
 19th: Diana Duesterhoft
 21st: Ron Raif
 26th: Jeff Richardson
 27th: Don King
 28th: Kayla Smith
 30th: Sunni Spraggins
 31st: John Dawes

Family Christmas Party

Sunday, December 19th at 4:00 PM, in the Parish Hall. We will decorate a Christmas Tree in the church. Then we will go to the Parish Hall for Pizza. Feel free to wear appropriate PJs or sweatpants with Christmas sweatshirts or sweaters. Church will provide the pizza. Please bring a side salad, fruit, and drinks to share for all. Also, bring at least one ornament to represent your family on the family tree. All Christmas ornaments are welcome.

Christmas Cookie Exchange

Sunday, December 19th, after the service
 Bake just one kind of cookie or candy. Package into bags of six, enough for each participant. Ruby Hahne will call those that sign up after church on December 12th to let them know how many bags of 6 to bring.
 Sign up form located in the narthex.

Christmas Eve Worship Service

Friday, December 24th at 6:00 PM

Poinsettia Dedications

If you would like to provide a Poinsettia for the Sanctuary, please fill out the form located in the narthex and place in the offering plate.

Suggested donation: \$20.00 per Poinsettia
 Please indicate "Poinsettia" on your check.

NEXT Sunday's Servers (12/19)

Cameras & Streaming: Danielle Martin
Danny's Team: Stan Williams
Eucharistic Ministers: Mary Lynn Dawes
Greeter: David Brown
Lector: Javier Glave
Ushers: Bryan White
Vestry People: Frank Supercinski, Roxanne Brink
Worship Tech: Laura Buckner

Prayer Requests

Healing For:

- McCarty Family
- Ruby Hahne
- Nancy
- Frank Rauch
- Roni & Tom

Other Prayer Requests:

- Terisa Kirschke (TRMC where I work pray for myself/co-workers for strength & protection against COVID. Our hospital is full)
- Joe McClellan (to adjust to Hawkins Creek Assisted Living Facility)

To submit a prayer request, fill out the back of the information sheet in the pew and place it in the offering.

Or, send an email with your request to: prayer@smaalongview.org

**** Emailed prayer requests are received by all who've signed up for the SMAA prayer chain. This community of prayer is committed to holding up our needs and thanksgivings to God whenever they are shared. TO JOIN IN THIS IMPORTANT MINISTRY, JUST SEND A REQUEST TO SMAA@SMAALONGVIEW.ORG ASKING TO BE A PART OF THE PRAYER CHAIN. ****

Stewardship Update

DATE	GIVING	BUDGET	ABOVE/BELOW
11/14/21	\$2,250	\$2,946	-\$696
11/21/21	\$7,009	\$2,946	\$4,063
11/28/21	\$2,125	\$2,946	-\$822
12/05/21	\$1,147	\$2,946	-\$1,799
YTD TOTALS	\$113,806	\$144,376	-\$30,570

This Sunday's Servers

Cameras & Streaming: Danielle Martin
Danny's Team: Mary Lynn Dawes
Eucharistic Ministers: Becky Supercinski
Greeter: Susan Kuhlman
Lector: Helen Daniel
Ushers: Frank Supercinski
Vestry People: Susan Kuhlman, Laura Buckner
Worship Tech: Laura Brown

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