

Faith and Rock Creek Lutheran Churches  
2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent  
Sunday December 5<sup>th</sup> 10:30AM  
WRDN 1430AM/107.3FM  
Facebook Live @faithandrockcreek  
Pastor Bethany Walker



Today's Radio Broadcast is sponsored by John and Jean Lippert  
in celebration of Jean's dad, Duane Klopp's, 96<sup>th</sup> Birthday

## Welcome

### Confession and Forgiveness

Blessed be the holy Trinity, + one God, who alone does wonders,  
who lifts up the lowly, who fills the hungry with good things. **Amen.**  
Let us confess our sin, trusting in the tender mercy of our God.

God for whom we wait,  
**in the presence of one another, we confess our sin before you.**  
**We fail in believing that your good news is for us.**  
**We falter in our call to tend your creation.**  
**We find our sense of self in material wealth.**  
**We fear those different from ourselves.**  
**We forget that we are your children and we turn away from your love.**  
**Forgive us, Blessed One, and assure us again of your saving grace. Amen.**

God, in Christ Jesus, has looked with favor upon you!  
Through the power of the Holy Spirit, + your sins are forgiven.  
You are children of the Most High, inheritors of the eternal promise,  
and recipients of divine mercy. God strengthens you anew to follow the way of  
peace. **Amen.**

### Opening Hymn

Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel LBW 34

Oh, come, oh, come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel, that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear. (refrain)

(refrain) Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel.

Oh, come, oh come great Lord of might, who to your tribes on Sinai's height in ancient times once gave the law in cloud, and majesty, and awe. (refrain)

Oh, come, strong Branch of Jesse, free your own from Satan's tyranny; from depths of hell your people save and give them victory over the grave. (refrain)

Oh, come, blest dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by your advent here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight. (refrain)

Oh, come, O key of David, come; and open wide our heav'nly home; make safe the way that leads on high and close the path to misery. (refrain)

### Lighting the Advent Wreath

On this second Sunday of Advent, we light a candle to help us remember.

**To help us remember that salvation is ours now because of God's love made flesh.** Though mountains appear too high to climb and valleys too low to cross, the light of Christ points out the path. **Though our faith seems rough and pathways to belief crooked, this candle reminds us that God always finds us in these dark and deserted places.** And so, we prepare, even in our wildernesses, for God's arrival. **Blessed are those who believe that all flesh will see the salvation of God.**

### Advent Hymn

Light One Candle WOV 630

Light one candle to watch for Messiah; let the light banish darkness.

He shall bring salvation to Israel, God fulfills the promise.

Light two candles to watch for Messiah, let the light banish darkness.

He shall feed the flock like a shepherd, gently lead them homeward.

### Greeting

The grace of our 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 our hearts, Lord God, to prepare the way for your only Son. By his coming help all people remember that salvation is a gift; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

## **Children's Message**

### **Old Testament Reading**

**Malachi 3:1-4**

<sup>1</sup>See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. <sup>2</sup>But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; <sup>3</sup>he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. <sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

### **New Testament Reading**

**Philippians 1:3-11**

<sup>3</sup>I thank my God every time I remember you, <sup>4</sup>constantly praying with joy in every one of my prayers for all of you, <sup>5</sup>because of your sharing in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>I am confident of this, that the one who began a good work among you will bring it to completion by the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>It is right for me to think this way about all of you, because you hold me in your heart, for all of you share in God's grace with me, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup>For God is my witness, how I long for all of you with the compassion of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup>And this is my prayer, that your love may overflow more and more with knowledge and full insight <sup>10</sup>to help you to determine what is best, so that in the day of Christ you may be pure and blameless, <sup>11</sup>having produced the harvest of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ for the glory and praise of God.

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm

## Zechariah's Song Luke 1:67-80

<sup>67</sup>Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke this prophecy:

<sup>68</sup>Blessed are you, Lord, the God of Israel, you have come to your people and set them free. <sup>69</sup>**You have raised up for us a mighty Savior, born of the house of your servant David.** <sup>70</sup>Through your holy prophets, you promised of old to save us from our enemies, <sup>71</sup>from the hands of all who hate us, <sup>72</sup>**to show mercy to our forebears, and to remember your holy covenant.** <sup>73</sup>This was the oath you swore to our father Abraham: <sup>74</sup>to set us free from the hands of our enemies, **free to worship you without fear,** <sup>75</sup>**holy and righteous before you, all the days of our life.** <sup>76</sup>And you, child, shall be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare the way, <sup>77</sup>**to give God's people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins.** <sup>78</sup>In the tender compassion of our God the dawn from on high shall break upon us, <sup>79</sup>**to shine on those who dwell in darkness and in the shadow of death, and to guide our feet into the way of peace.**

<sup>80</sup>The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

## Gospel Acclamation

(Tune: We Three Kings of Orient Are refrain)

O Word of God speak to us now. Stir within us, show us how,  
to wait with patient eager longing, til we at the manger bow.

## Gospel

Luke 3:1-6

<sup>1</sup>In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, <sup>2</sup>during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, <sup>4</sup>as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah, "The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. <sup>5</sup>Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough ways made smooth; <sup>6</sup>and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.' "

## Sermon

## **Hymn of the Day**

## **Baptized in Water WOV 693**

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit cleansed by the blood of Christ our king;  
heirs of salvation, trusting his promise, faithfully now God's praise we sing.

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, dead in the tomb with Christ our king;  
one with his rising, freed and forgiven thankfully now God's praise we sing.

Baptized in water, sealed by the Spirit, marked with the sign of Christ our king;  
born of one Father, we are his children, joyfully now God's praise we sing.

## **Sacrament of Holy Baptism**

### **Apostles' Creed**

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

**Hear us O God. Your mercy is great.**

### **Peace**

**The peace of the Lord be with you always. And also with you.**

### **Offering**

### **Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.  
Praise God above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

### **Offering Prayer**

**God of our waiting and watching, we offer the gifts of our hearts and our lives to the service of all your people. Prepare the way before us as we meet you in this simple meal, through Christ Jesus, our pathway and our peace. Amen.**

### **Words of Institution**

On the night...remembering, therefore, Christ's life, death, resurrection, and ascension, we await his coming in glory. Pour out upon us the Spirit of your love, O Lord, and unite the wills of all who share this heavenly food, the body and blood of Jesus Christ, our Lord; to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be all honor and glory, now and forever. **Amen.**

### **The Lord's Prayer**

Let us pray with confidence the prayer that Jesus taught us...

**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.**

### **Communion Distribution**

#### **Post Communion Blessing**

#### **Prayer after Communion**

Most High God, you have come among us at this table.

By the Spirit's power, form us to be bearers of your word,  
sharing gifts of mercy and grace with all,  
through Christ Jesus, our host and our guest.

**Amen.**

#### **Benediction**

The God of hope fill us with all joy and peace in believing, so that we may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit, through Christ Jesus for whom we wait.

**Amen.**

#### **Closing Song**

#### **Awake, Awake and Greet the New Morn WOV 633**

Awake! Awake and greet the new morn, for angels herald its dawning.  
sing out your joy, for soon he is born, behold! the Child of our longing.  
Come as a baby weak and poor, to bring all hearts together,  
he opens wide the heavenly door, and lives now inside us forever.

To us, to all in sorrow and fear, Emmanuel comes a-singing,  
his humble song is quiet and near, yet fills the earth with its ringing.  
Music to heal the broken soul and hymns of loving kindness,  
the thunder of his anthems roll to shatter all hatred and blindness.

In darkest night his coming shall be, when all the world is despairing,  
as morning light so quiet and free, so warm and gentle and caring.  
Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in wonder,  
the weak be raised above the strong, and weapons be broken asunder.

Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night, though dark the winter and cheerless,  
the rising sun shall crown you with light, be strong and loving and fearless;  
Love be our song and love our prayer, and love, our endless story, may God fill  
every day we share, and bring us at last into glory.

**Dismissal**

Go in peace. Christ is near. **Thanks be to God.**