

Advent Midweek Service 3
The Word Made Flesh
December 18, 2024 5:30 PM

Trinity Lutheran Church
Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod
Faribault, MN 55021



Week 3: Rock of Ages
Order of Service

Announcements

P Look to the rock from which you were hewn, and to the quarry from which you were dug. Isaiah 51:1

Opening Hymn ... “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates” LSB 341, sts. 1-4

1 Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates! Behold, the King of glory waits.
The King of kings is drawing near; The Savior of the world is here.
Life and salvation he doth bring; Therefore rejoice and gladly sing.
To God the Father raise Your joyful songs of praise.

2 A righteous Helper comes to thee; His chariot is humility,
His kingly crown is holiness, His scepter, pity in distress.
The end of all our woe he brings; Therefore the earth is glad and sings.
To Christ the Savior raise Your grateful hymns of praise.

3 How blest the land, the city blest, Where Christ the ruler is confessed!
O peaceful hearts and happy homes To whom this King in triumph comes!
The cloudless sun of joy is he Who comes to set his people free.
To God the Spirit raise Your happy shouts of praise.

4 Fling wide the portals of your heart; Make it a temple set apart
From earthly use for heav’n’s employ, Adorned with prayer and love and joy.
So shall your Sov’reign enter in And new and nobler life begin.
To God alone be praise For word and deed and grace!

Text & Music: Public domain

Invocation and Lighting of the Advent Wreath

P In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C Amen.

(Three blue candles are lit on the Advent wreath.)

P Today, we light the third candle on the Advent wreath in praise of Jesus our Savior, the Rock and Cornerstone of our salvation. Through faith in Jesus, we are members of the household of God, “built on the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Christ Jesus himself being the cornerstone” (Ephesians 2:20).

C By faith, our lives are built on the solid foundation of Jesus and his Word.

P Built on that foundation, “you yourselves like living stones are being built up as a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ” (1 Peter 2:5).

C Each day, we offer to God the sacrifices of prayer, praise and a life lived by faith.

Confession and Absolution

P Let us confess our sins to God, and ask for his forgiveness.

C Almighty God, you have called us to be your holy people, built on Jesus, the Rock of our salvation. Yet, we often seek to live according to our own sinful desires instead of following your holy will. We try to build our lives on the weak and crumbling foundations of earthly values and possessions. Have mercy on us, and forgive us. Strengthen us to live as your holy people built on Jesus our Cornerstone.

P God has had mercy on us. He sent his Son, Jesus our Savior, to be born among us. Jesus was the stone the builders rejected. Innocent of all sin, he bore our sins in his body on the cross. Our sins are washed away in his blood. I announce to you that your sins are forgiven in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

C Lord Jesus, help us each day to build our lives on you, our Rock, our Foundation and our Cornerstone.

Prayer of the Day

Hymn ... “Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come” *LSB* 350, sts. 1

1 Come, thou precious Ransom, come, Only hope for sinful mortals!
Come, O Savior of the world! Open are to thee all portals.
Come, thy beauty let us see; Anxiously we wait for thee.

Children’s Sermon

Hymn ... “Come, Thou Precious Ransom, Come” *LSB* 350, sts. 4

4 Hail! Hosanna, David’s Son! Jesus, hear our supplication!
Let thy kingdom, scepter, crown, Bring us blessing and salvation,
That forever we may sing: Hail! Hosanna to our King.

Old Testament Reading ... Isaiah 51:1-3

¹“Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,
you who seek the LORD:
look to the rock from which you were hewn,
and to the quarry from which you were dug.
²Look to Abraham your father
and to Sarah who bore you;
for he was but one when I called him,
that I might bless him and multiply him.
³For the LORD comforts Zion;
he comforts all her waste places
and makes her wilderness like Eden,
her desert like the garden of the LORD;
joy and gladness will be found in her,
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Epistle Reading ... 1 Corinthians 10:1-4

¹I want you to know, brothers, that our fathers were all under the cloud, and all passed through the sea, ²and all were baptized into Moses in the cloud and in the sea, ³and all ate the same spiritual food, ⁴and all drank the same spiritual

drink. For they drank from the spiritual Rock that followed them, and the Rock was Christ.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading ... Matthew 7:24-26

²⁴“Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. ²⁵And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock.

²⁶And everyone who hears these words of mine and does not do them will be like a foolish man who built his house on the sand.

P This is the Word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

Sermon Hymn ... “Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring” *LSB 353, sts. 1-3*

- 1 Jesus came, the heav’ns adoring, Came with peace from realms on high;
Jesus came to win redemption, Lowly came on earth to die;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Came in deep humility.
- 2 Jesus comes again in mercy When our hearts are worn with care;
Jesus comes again in answer To an earnest, heartfelt prayer;
Alleluia! Alleluia! Comes to save us from despair.
- 3 Jesus comes to hearts rejoicing, Bringing news of sins forgiv’n;
Jesus comes with words of gladness, Leading souls redeemed to heav’n.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Hope to all the world is giv’n.

Sermon “ROCK OF AGES” *The Rev. Peter Gueldner***Apostles’ Creed**

C 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 “Christmas Hallelujah” *Special Music: Sierra & Kellsey***Prayers**

Each petition concludes with the following response:

P Jesus, Rock of our salvation,

C Help us to build our lives on you.

Lord’s Prayer

P Together let us pray as our Lord Jesus taught us...

C 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 (Matthew 7:24-25; 2 Corinthians 13:14)

P Jesus said, "Everyone then who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock.

C And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock."

P The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all. Amen.

Closing Hymn ... "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less" LSB 575, sts. 1-4

- 1 My hope is built on nothing less Than Jesus' blood and righteousness;
No merit of my own I claim But wholly lean on Jesus' name.
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.
- 2 When darkness veils his lovely face, I rest on his unchanging grace;
In ev'ry high and stormy gale My anchor holds within the veil.
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.
- 3 His oath, his covenant and blood Support me in the raging flood;
When ev'ry earthly prop gives way, He then is all my hope and stay.
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.
- 4 When he shall come with trumpet sound, Oh, may I then in him be found,
Clothed in his righteousness alone, Redeemed to stand before his throne!
On Christ, the solid rock, I stand; All other ground is sinking sand.

* * * **TO GOD BE THE GLORY** * * *

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Christmas Worship Schedule

Thursday, December 19

6:00 PM - FLS Christmas Service

Tuesday, Christmas Eve, December 24

4:30 PM - Christmas Eve Family Service

(Please note: The Christmas Eve Family Service will be broadcast on KDHL at 6:00 p.m.)

10:00 PM - Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Wednesday, Christmas Day, December 25

9:00 AM - Christmas Day service with Holy Communion

Saturday & Sunday, December 28 & 29

Regular Services Times

Services of Lessons & Carols

NO NEW YEAR'S EVE OR DAY SERVICES

Midweek Advent, Christmas Eve Family & Christmas Day services will be broadcast on KDHL (920 am) and live streamed.