

December 15, 2021

*Third Advent
Mid-Week*



**GRACE
LUTHERAN
CHURCH**

1600 Old Trolley Rd
Summerville, SC
29485-8275

Office:
(843) 871-5444

Fax:
(843) 871-5763

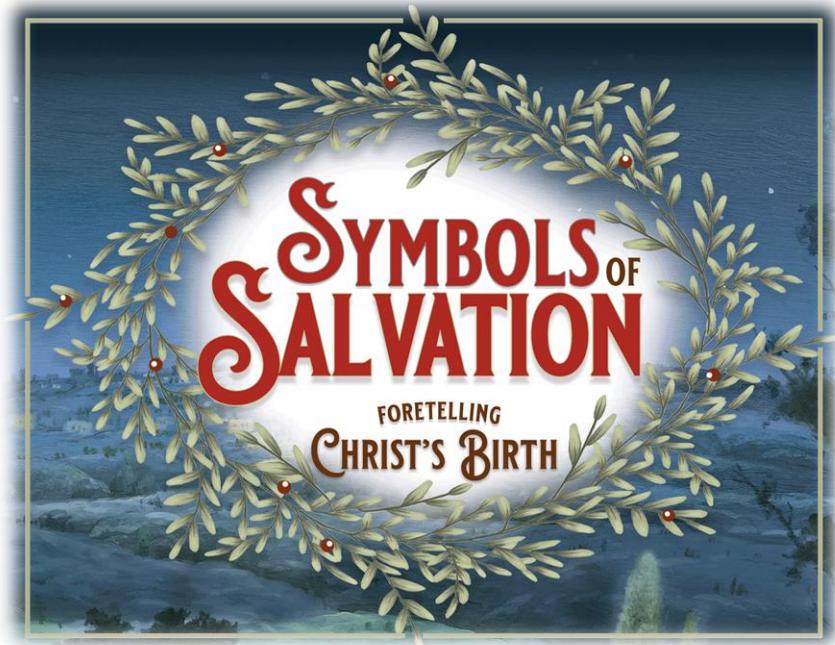
E-mail:
office@
gracesummerville.org

Website:
[www.gracesummerville](http://www.gracesummerville.org)
.org

Worship:
8:00, 9:30 & 11:00am
Communion:
1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays

Adult Bible Study &
Sunday School:
9:30 am
(Grace Hall)
+
Pastor:
Richard Willsea

Deaconess:
Karen Suter



THIRD ADVENT MIDWEEK SERVICE

December 15, 2021

✠ PREPARATION ✠

PRELUDE

"Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord"
"Let All Together Praise Our God"

setting: W. Wold
setting: B. Hall

WELCOME

Stand

INVOCATION

P In the name of the Father and of the ✠ Son and of the Holy Spirit.

G Amen.

As the hymn is sung, the candles on the Advent wreath and the altar are lighted.

HYMN

"Let All Together Praise Our God"

LSB 389



1 Let all to - geth - er praise our God Be - fore His
2 He leaves His heav'n - ly Fa - ther's throne, Is born an
3 With - in an earth - born form He hides His all - cre -
4 He un - der - takes a great ex - change, Puts on our



glo - rious throne; To - day He o - pens heav'n a - gain To
in - fant small, And in a man - ger, poor and lone, Lies
at - ing light; To serve us all He hum - bly cloaks The
hu - man frame, And in re - turn gives us His realm, His



give us His own Son, To give us His own Son.
in a hum - ble stall, Lies in a hum - ble stall.
splen - dor of His might, The splen - dor of His might.
glo - ry, and His name, His glo - ry, and His name.

- 5 He is a servant, I a lord:
How great a mystery!
How strong the tender Christ Child's love!
No truer friend than He,
No truer friend than He.
- 6 He is the key and He the door
To blessed paradise;
The angel bars the way no more.
To God our praises rise,
To God our praises rise.
- △ 7 Your grace in lowliness revealed,
Lord Jesus, we adore
And praise to God the Father yield
And Spirit evermore;
We praise You evermore.

CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,

G **who made heaven and earth.**

P In this season of penitence and reflection, let us think of our unworthiness and confess before God that we have sinned in thought, word, and deed, asking for His merciful forgiveness.

G **God Almighty, have mercy on us, forgive us our sins, and bring us to life everlasting. Amen.**

P Almighty God, our heavenly Father, has had mercy upon us and has given His only Son, our Emmanuel, to die for us, and for His sake, forgives us all our sins. May the God of peace Himself sanctify you completely, and may your whole spirit, soul, and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

G **Amen.**

SALUTATION

P The Lord be with you.

G **And also with you.**

OPENING COLLECT

P Let us pray. Lord Jesus, You came to earth in lowliness of heart to seek and save the lost. In this season of repentance and prayer, make us ready to prepare Your way with sincere devotion that reflects Your humble service. By Your Holy Spirit, grant us a sense of peace and renewed dedication to live as faithful and courageous people, so that we welcome You with joyful hearts and hope-filled lives. This we ask in Your wonderful name.

C Amen.

P The theme for our Advent services in this season is “Symbols of Salvation: Foretelling Christ’s Birth.” In these weeks, we have discovered “types”—people, like Moses, and things, like the burning bush and tent of meeting of God’s Old Testament people—that pointed forward to the coming of Christ. Today, we will discover how God used Gideon to show His power. With the heavenly host, we join in the praise of the Savior as we sing our next hymn.

HYMN

“O God of God, O Light of Light”

LSB 810 sts. 1–4



1 O God of God, O Light of Light, O Prince of Peace and
2 For deep in proph-ets' sa - cred page, And grand in po - ets'
3 That life of truth, those deeds of love, That death so steeped in
4 Then raise to Christ a might - y song, And shout His name, His



King of kings: To You in heav-en's glo - ry bright The song of
wing-ed word, Slow - ly in type, from age to age The na - tions
hate and scorn— These all are past, and now a - bove He reigns, our
mer - cies tell! Sing, heav'n-ly host, your praise pro-long, And all on



praise for - ev - er rings. To Him who sits up - on the throne,
saw their com - ing Lord; Till through the deep Ju - de - an night
King once crowned with thorn. Lift up your heads, O might - y gates!
earth, your an - them swell! All hail, O Lamb for sin - ners slain!



The Lamb once slain but raised a - gain, Be all the glo - ry
Rang out the song, "Good-will to men!" Sung once by first - born
So sang that host be - yond our ken. Lift up your heads, your
For - ev - er let the song as - cend! Wor - thy the Lamb, en -



He has won, All thanks and praise! A - men, a - men.
sons of light, It ech - oes now, "Good - will!" A - men.
King a - waits. We lift them up. A - men, a - men.
throned to reign, All glo - ry, pow'r! A - men, a - men.

✠ SERVICE OF THE WORD ✠

Sit

FIRST READING

Judges 6:11–24; 7:2–9

A A reading from Judges, the sixth and seventh chapters.

11Now the angel of the LORD came and sat under the terebinth at Ophrah, which belonged to Joash the Abiezrite, while his son Gideon was beating out wheat in the winepress to hide it from the Midianites. 12And the angel of the LORD appeared to him and said to him, "The LORD is with you, O mighty man of valor." 13And Gideon said to him, "Please, sir, if the LORD is with us, why then has all this happened to us? And where are all his wonderful deeds that our fathers recounted to us, saying, 'Did not the LORD bring us up from Egypt?' But now the LORD has forsaken us and given us into the hand of Midian." 14And the LORD turned to him and said, "Go in this might of yours and save Israel from the hand of Midian; do not I send you?" 15And he said to him, "Please, Lord, how can I save Israel? Behold, my clan is the weakest in Manasseh, and I am the least in my father's house." 16And the LORD said to him, "But I will be with you, and you shall strike the Midianites as one man." 17And he said to him, "If now I have found favor in your eyes, then show me a sign that it is you who speaks with me. 18Please do not depart from here until I come to you and bring out my present and set it before you." And he said, "I will stay till you return."

19So Gideon went into his house and prepared a young goat and unleavened cakes from an ephah of flour. The meat he put in a basket, and the broth he put in a pot, and brought them to him under the terebinth and presented them. 20And the angel of God said to him, "Take the meat and the unleavened cakes, and put them on this rock, and pour the broth over them." And he did so. 21Then the angel of the

LORD reached out the tip of the staff that was in his hand and touched the meat and the unleavened cakes. And fire sprang up from the rock and consumed the flesh and the unleavened cakes. And the angel of the LORD vanished from his sight. 22Then Gideon perceived that he was the angel of the LORD. And Gideon said, "Alas, O Lord GOD! For now I have seen the angel of the LORD face to face." 23But the LORD said to him, "Peace be to you. Do not fear; you shall not die." 24Then Gideon built an altar there to the LORD and called it, The LORD is Peace. To this day it still stands at Ophrah, which belongs to the Abiezrites.

2The LORD said to Gideon, "The people with you are too many for me to give the Midianites into their hand, lest Israel boast over me, saying, 'My own hand has saved me.' 3Now therefore proclaim in the ears of the people, saying, 'Whoever is fearful and trembling, let him return home and hurry away from Mount Gilead.'" Then 22,000 of the people returned, and 10,000 remained.

4And the LORD said to Gideon, "The people are still too many. Take them down to the water, and I will test them for you there, and anyone of whom I say to you, 'This one shall go with you,' shall go with you, and anyone of whom I say to you, 'This one shall not go with you,' shall not go." 5So he brought the people down to the water. And the LORD said to Gideon, "Every one who laps the water with his tongue, as a dog laps, you shall set by himself. Likewise, every one who kneels down to drink." 6And the number of those who lapped, putting their hands to their mouths, was 300 men, but all the rest of the people knelt down to drink water. 7And the LORD said to Gideon, "With the 300 men who lapped I will save you and give the Midianites into your hand, and let all the others go every man to his home." 8So the people took provisions in their hands, and their trumpets. And he sent all the rest of Israel every man to his tent, but retained the 300 men. And the camp of Midian was below him in the valley.

9That same night the LORD said to him, "Arise, go down against the camp, for I have given it into your hand.

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

PSALM

Psalm 85

A LORD, You were favorable to Your land; You restored the fortunes of Jacob.

C **You forgave the iniquity of Your people; You covered all their sin.**

A You withdrew all Your wrath; You turned from Your hot anger.

C Restore us again, O God of our salvation, and put away Your indignation toward us!

A Will You be angry with us forever?

C Will You prolong Your anger to all generations?

A Will You not revive us again, that Your people may rejoice in You?

C Show us Your steadfast love, O LORD, and grant us Your salvation.

A Let me hear what God the LORD will speak, for He will speak peace to His people, to His saints; but let them not turn back to folly.

C Surely His salvation is near to those who fear Him, that glory may dwell in our land.

A Steadfast love and faithfulness meet; righteousness and peace kiss each other.

C Faithfulness springs up from the ground, and righteousness looks down from the sky.

A Yes, the LORD will give what is good, and our land will yield its increase.

C Righteousness will go before Him and make His footsteps a way.

**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.**

SECOND READING

Micah 5:2–5

A A reading from Micah, the fifth chapter.

A reading from Micah, the fifth chapter.

² But you, O Bethlehem Ephrathah,
who are too little to be among the clans of Judah,
from you shall come forth for me
one who is to be ruler in Israel,
whose origin is from of old,
from ancient days.

³ Therefore he shall give them up until the time
when she who is in labor has given birth;
then the rest of his brothers shall return

to the people of Israel.
4And he shall stand and shepherd his flock in the strength of the LORD,
in the majesty of the name of the LORD his God.
And they shall dwell secure, for now he shall be great
to the ends of the earth.
5And he shall be their peace.
When the Assyrian comes into our land
and treads in our palaces,
then we will raise against him seven shepherds
and eight princes of men;

A This is the Word of the Lord.

C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

VERSE

Isaiah 11:1–2, 5–6, 9

P There shall come forth a shoot from the stump of Jesse, and a branch from his roots shall bear fruit. And the Spirit of the LORD shall rest upon Him,

C **the Spirit of wisdom and understanding, the Spirit of counsel and might, the Spirit of knowledge and the fear of the LORD.**

P Righteousness shall be the belt of His waist, and faithfulness the belt of His loins.

C **The wolf shall dwell with the lamb, and the leopard shall lie down with the young goat, and the calf and the lion and the fattened calf together; and a little child shall lead them.**

P They shall not hurt or destroy in all My holy mountain;

C **for the earth shall be full of the knowledge of the LORD as the waters cover the sea.**

HOLY GOSPEL

Luke 1:68–75

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Luke, the first chapter.

C **Glory to You, O Lord.**

68" Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
 for he has visited and redeemed his people
 69and has raised up a horn of salvation for us
 in the house of his servant David,
 70as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,
 71that we should be saved from our enemies
 and from the hand of all who hate us;
 72to show the mercy promised to our fathers
 and to remember his holy covenant,
 73the oath that he swore to our father Abraham, to grant us
 74that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies,
 might serve him without fear,
 75in holiness and righteousness before him all our days.

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C Praise to You, O Christ.

Sit

HYMN

"Let the Earth Now Praise the Lord"

LSB 352



1 Let the earth now praise the Lord, Who has tru - ly
 2 What the Fa - thers most de - sired, What the proph - ets'
 3 A - bram's prom - ised great re - ward, Zi - on's help - er,
 4 As Your com - ing was in peace, Qui - et, full of



kept His word And at last to us did send
 heart in - spired, What they longed for man - y a year,
 Ja - cob's Lord— Him of two - fold race be - hold—
 gen - tle - ness, Let the same mind dwell in me



Christ, the sin - ner's help and friend.
 Stands ful - filled in glo - ry here.
 Tru - ly came, as long fore - told.
 Which is Yours e - ter - nal - ly.

- 5 Bruise for me the serpent's head
That, set free from doubt and dread,
I may cling to You in faith,
Safely kept through life and death.
- 6 Then when You will come again
As the glorious king to reign,
I with joy will see Your face,
Freely ransomed by Your grace.

SERMON

Stand

CATECHISM

The Third Article

C 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.

P What does this mean?

C I believe that I cannot by my own reason or strength believe in Jesus Christ, my Lord, or come to Him; but the Holy Spirit has called me by the Gospel, enlightened me with His gifts, sanctified and kept me in the true faith.

In the same way He calls, gathers, enlightens, and sanctifies the whole Christian Church on earth, and keeps it with Jesus Christ in the one true faith.

In this Christian Church He daily and richly forgives all my sins and the sins of all believers.

On the Last Day He will raise me and all the dead, and give eternal life to me and all believers in Christ.

This is most certainly true.

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

P Almighty God, we lift up our hearts in gratitude to You, and for all Your loving kindness we bless Your holy name. For life and health, for love and friendship, and for the knowledge of Your grace and truth which shapes our lives,

C we praise You, O God, and ask Your blessing.

A For the wonder of this holy season, and for all things true and honorable, just and pure, lovely and gracious,

C we praise You, O God, and ask Your blessing.

P For the gift of Jesus Christ, our Lord, for His sacrifice and service, and for His obedience unto death, even death on a cross,

C we praise You, O God, and ask Your blessing.

A For His glorious resurrection and ascension to Your right hand, for His kingdom and everlasting dominion, and for the promise of His return to earth in glory at the final Advent,

C we praise You, O God, and ask Your blessing.

P For the Holy Spirit, the Counselor, who is at work in our hearts and our lives, and who unites the hearts of the faithful through the Church throughout the world, for the Means of Grace, and for the fellowship of the redeemed in heaven and on earth,

C we praise You, O God, and ask Your blessing.

A According to Your mercy, hear and answer the prayers and petitions we bring before You, and grant all that is needed and in accord with Your will. Glory, thanksgiving, and praise be to You, O Father almighty, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, forever and ever.

C Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER

**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.

Sit

OFFERING

VOLUNTARY

"O Jesus, So Sweet, O Jesus So Mild"

setting: G.F. Kauffman

Stand

OFFERTORY

"O Jesus So Sweet, O Jesus So Mild"

LSB 546



1 O Je - sus so sweet, O Je - sus so mild! For
 2 O Je - sus so sweet, O Je - sus so mild! With
 3 O Je - sus so sweet, O Je - sus so mild! Joy



sin - ners You be - came a child. You came from
 God we now are rec - on - ciled. You have for
 fills the world which sin de - filed. What - e'er we



heav - en down to earth In hu - man flesh through
 all the ran - som paid, Your Fa - ther's righ - teous
 have be - longs to You; O keep us faith - ful,



hu - man birth. O Je - sus so sweet, O Je - sus so mild!
 an - ger stayed. O Je - sus so sweet, O Je - sus so mild!
 strong, and true. O Je - sus so sweet, O Je - sus so mild!

Advent Antiphon

P O Dayspring, splendor of light everlasting:

C Come and enlighten those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.

HYMN

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

LSB 357 sts. ref, 6

6 O come, Thou Day - spring from on high, And cheer us
by Thy draw - ing nigh; Dis - perse the gloom - y
clouds of night, And death's dark shad - ows put to flight.

Refrain
Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el
Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Advent Antiphon

P O King of the nations, the ruler they long for, the cornerstone uniting all people:

C Come and save us all, whom You formed out of clay.

HYMN

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

LSB 357 sts. ref, 7

7 O come, De - sire of na - tions, bind In one the
hearts of all man - kind; Bid Thou our sad di -

vi - sions cease, And be Thy - self our King of Peace.

Refrain
Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el

Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

Advent Antiphon

- P** O Emmanuel, our King and our Lord, the anointed for the nations and their Savior:
G Come and save us, O Lord our God.

HYMN

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

LSB 357 sts. 1, ref

I O come, O come, Em - man - u - el, And ran - som

cap - tive Is - ra - el, That mourns in lone - ly

ex - ile here Un - til the Son of God ap - pear.

Refrain
Re - joice! Re - joice! Em - man - u - el

Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el!

PRAYER

P Let us pray. O Lord, grant us Your grace in this present age to live with confidence and courage as we look for the fullness of Your coming among us in all of Your glory and power at the end of time. By the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, lead us and guide us through our days until at last we join with saints and angels in endless praise around Your heavenly throne. This we ask through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord.

C Amen.

BLESSING

P The almighty and merciful Lord, the Father, the ✠ Son, and the Holy Spirit, bless you and keep you.

C Amen.

Sit

ANNOUNCEMENTS AND DISMISSAL

A Go in peace as you serve the Lord.

C Thanks be to God.

POSTLUDE

"God is Our Refuge and Strength"

F. Ritter

PARTICIPATING IN THIS SERVICE

Pastor: Richard Willsea

Organist: Patty Barnes

Deaconess: Karen Suter

Acknowledgments

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