



The 3rd Sunday of Advent
Sunday, December 11, 2022

The People of New Joy, Ministers
The Rev. Chris Duckworth, Pastor
Glenn Hoffman, Music Minister
The Rev. Dr. Jessicah Duckworth, Guest Minister

Welcome to worship at New Joy Lutheran Church. We are blessed by your presence among us today. This bulletin contains the outline and words for worship this morning.

Little children are always welcome – even and especially when they’re a little noisy! We welcome children to toddle around, play with toys, shake tambourines, and come to the Lord’s Table.

At our Lord’s Table Jesus gives his own body and blood for the forgiveness of sins and intimacy of his promised presence with us. All who desire to receive our Lord are welcome. Communion is shared with bread (a wafer) and cup (grape juice). If you’re uncertain about receiving or how to receive, don’t hesitate to ask pastor when you come forward. You are welcome to receive a blessing or to receive the sacrament, as you feel led by the Spirit.

GATHERING

Prelude

Words of Welcome

Opening Song

He Came Down



- 1 He came down that we may have love; he came down that we may have love;
- 2 He came down that we may have light; he came down that we may have light;
- 3 He came down that we may have peace; he came down that we may have peace;
- 4 He came down that we may have joy; he came down that we may have joy;



he came down that we may have love;
he came down that we may have light; hal - le - lu - jah for - ev - er - more.
he came down that we may have peace;
he came down that we may have joy;

Opening Prayer

Apostolic Greeting

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **And also with you.**

Advent Wreath Lighting Prayer Litany

We welcome Jeff Papke to lead us in lighting the Advent wreath this morning.

Jesus, the Light of the World

Verse 1

Hark! the herald angels sing, Jesus,
the Light of the world;
"Glory to the newborn king," Jesus,
the Light of the world.

Verse 2

Joyful, all you nations, rise; Jesus, the
Light of the world;
join the triumph of the skies; Jesus,
the Light of the world.

Refrain

We'll walk in the light, beautiful light,
come where the dewdrops of mercy are bright.
Shine all around us by day and by night,
Jesus, the Light of the world

This Advent season we are reading Scripture that cast hope and expectation for the promised return of Christ. Today we read Isaiah 35:1-10.

R: A Reading from Isaiah:

¹The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus ²it 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.

³Strengthen the weak hands,
and make firm the feeble knees.

⁴Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
"Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

He will come with vengeance,
with terrible recompense.

He will come and save you."

⁵Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf unstopped;
⁶then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness,
and streams in the desert;
⁷the burning sand shall become a pool,
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp,
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

⁸A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God's people;
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

⁹No 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.

¹⁰And the ransomed of the LORD shall return,
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

R: The Word of the Lord.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Advent Wreath Prayer

Jesus, the Light of the World

Verse 3

Christ, by highest heav'n adored,
Jesus, the Light of the world;
Christ, the everlasting Lord! Jesus, the
Light of the world.

Verse 4

Hail the heav'n-born Prince of peace!
Jesus, the Light of the world;
Hail the Sun of righteousness! Jesus,
the Light of the world.

Prayer of the Day

P: Let us pray.

Stir up the wills of all who look to you, Lord God, and strengthen our faith in your coming, that, transformed by grace, we may walk in your way; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C: **Amen.**

WORD

Children's Message

Gospel Acclamation

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

6 G D(SUS4) D
You give Your Word to share_ with all_ Al -

9 G Em
le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! You

13 G Am7 D D/F# G
speak Your Word, and for all that is heard, we sing Al - le - lu - ia!

Gospel

Matthew 11:2-11

P: The Holy Gospel, according to Saint Matthew:

C: **Glory to you, O Lord.**

²When John heard in prison what the Messiah was doing, he sent word by his disciples ³and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” ⁴Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: ⁵the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. ⁶And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

⁷As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? ⁸What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. ⁹What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. ¹⁰This is the one about whom it is written,

‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you,
who will prepare your way before you.’

¹¹Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.”

R: The Gospel of the Lord.

C: Praise to you, O Christ!

Gospel Acclamation

Musical score for Gospel Acclamation, featuring a treble clef, key signature of one sharp (F#), and 6/8 time signature. The score is divided into four systems, each with a measure number and chord symbols above the staff.

System 1 (Measures 1-5):
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

System 2 (Measures 6-8):
6 G D(SUS4) D
You give Your Word to share_ with all, Al -

System 3 (Measures 9-12):
9 G Em
le - lu - ia! Al - le lu - ia! You

System 4 (Measures 13-16):
13 G Am7 D D/F# G
speak Your Word, and for all that is heard, we sing Al - le - lu - ia!

Sermon

The Rev. Dr. Jessicah Duckworth

Hymn of the Day

Verse 1

He became sin who knew no sin
That we might become His
righteousness
He humbled Himself and carried the
cross
Love so amazing love so amazing

Chorus

Jesus Messiah Name above all names
Blessed Redeemer Emmanuel
The Rescue for sinners
The Ransom from heaven
Jesus Messiah Lord of all

Jesus Messiah

(V1, C, V2, C, B, C, E)

Verse 2

His body the bread His blood the wine
Broken and poured out all for love
The whole earth trembled and the veil
was torn
Love so amazing love so amazing

Bridge

All our hope is in You
All our hope is in You
All the glory to You God
The Light of the world

Ending

Jesus Messiah
Lord of all
The Lord of all
The Lord of all

*The **Assisting Minister** leads this portion of the service, where we proclaim our faith, renew our shared mission, lift our prayers to God, and extend God's peace with one another.*

Mission Statement

AM: Let us say together the mission we share:

C: New Joy Lutheran Church is a spirited community called by God to extend a radical welcome, share a generous grace, nurture a transforming faith, and live God's promise.

Apostles' Creed

AM: With the whole church, let us confess our faith using the ancient words of the Apostles' Creed

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

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's 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 to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come 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 the Church

Prayers of Intercession - Each prayer petition concludes with, "God, in your mercy." The response is, "Hear our prayer."

Sharing the Peace

AM: The peace of the Lord be with you all.

C: And also with you.

AM: Let us share a sign of Christ's peace with those around us.

Announcements & Offering

Offering Prayer

AM: Let us pray.
Eternal God,
you make the desert bloom
and send springs of water to thirsty ground.
Receive our pledges of financial support for the year to come,
together with our weekly offerings of bread, drink, and money,
and make us messengers of your mercy and love
for all in need of your healing and justice.
We ask this through Christ our Savior.

C: Amen.

MEAL

As we prepare to receive the gift of Holy Communion, we pray a table grace patterned after the great Old Testament and early church prayers that recount God's goodness and ask that such goodness would extend to us and through us now and until our Lord's promised return.

P: The Lord be with you.

C: And also with you.

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: We lift them to the Lord.

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Pastor continues with the proper preface, an opening to the eucharistic prayer shaped by Advent themes. The proper preface leads us to sing, "Holy, Holy, Holy."



Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly are you, God of pow - er and



might; heav - en and earth are filled with your



glo - ry. Ho - san - na in the high - est.



Bless - ed is the one who comes in your name. Ho -



san - na in the high - est, ho - san - na in the high - est.

Pastor continues with the eucharistic prayer, a broad prayer recalling God's mighty deeds of salvation from creation to the cross to this table. During the prayer Pastor will sing the following refrain, which is then repeated by the entire congregation.

Acclamation



Christ has died. Christ is ris-en. Christ will come, come a - gain.

The prayer concludes with a sung Amen.



A - men, a - men. A - men, a - men.

The words around the communion table conclude with the prayer Jesus taught us (please note the 'new' translation of the Lord's Prayer, in wide use since the 1970s).

**C: Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Lord's Supper *(please be seated)*

All are welcome to the communion feast, for our Lord is host and gives himself to all who desire to receive. Those not receiving Holy Communion are welcome to come forward to receive a blessing or remain in their seats in prayer. Come, let us eat and drink at the table of the Lord.

Lamb of God (New Joy)

Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world;
have mercy on us. X2
Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world;
grant us peace.

Emmanuel

Em-man - u - el, _____ Em-man - u - el, _____ His name is

6 Dm Dm/C G⁷/B G C E⁷ F F/E

called _____ Em-man - u - el: _____ God with us, _____

11 Dm⁷ G⁷ C Gm⁶/B \flat A⁷ A⁷/C \sharp

re - vealed in us! _____ His name is

14 Dm Dm/C G⁷/B G C

called _____ Em-man - u - el.

Freedom is Coming

[A leader may sing the words in parentheses]

Verse 1

(Oh, freedom,) Freedom is coming.
 (oh, freedom,) Freedom is coming.
 (oh, freedom,) Freedom is coming.
 (oh, freedom,) Freedom is coming.
 Oh, yes, I know.
 (Oh, freedom,) Freedom is coming.
 (oh, freedom,) Freedom is coming.
 (oh, freedom,) Freedom is coming.
 Oh, yes, I know.

(Oh, yes, I know.) Oh, oh, yes, I know.
 (Oh, yes, I know.) Oh, oh, yes, I know.
 (Oh, yes, I know.) Oh, oh, yes, I know.
 Oh, yes, I know.
 (Oh, yes, I know.) Oh, oh, yes, I know.
 (Oh, yes, I know.) Oh, oh, yes, I know.
 (Oh, yes, I know.) Oh, oh, yes, I know.
 Oh, yes, I know.

Verse 2

Oh, Jesus.
 Jesus is coming.
 Oh, yes, I know.

Prayer after Communion

AM: Let us pray.

Faithful God, in this meal you have remembered your mercy, bringing heaven to earth in the body and blood of Christ. As we wait for the day when all your promises will be fulfilled, sustain us and strengthen us by this holy mystery. Guide us toward your promised future, coming to birth in Jesus Christ our Savior and Lord.

C: Amen.

SENDING

Benediction

P: The Lord bless you and keep you.

The Lord's face shine on you with grace and mercy.

The Lord look upon you with favor and give you peace.

In the name of the Father, + Son, and Holy Spirit

C: Amen

Sending Song

Prepare the Royal Highway



- 1 Pre - pare the roy - al high - way; the King of kings is near!
- 2 God's peo - ple, see him com - ing; your own e - ter - nal king!
- 3 Then fling the gates wide o - pen to greet your prom - ised king!
- 4 His is no earth - ly king - dom; it comes from heav'n a - bove.



Let ev - 'ry hill and val - ley a lev - el road ap - pear!
Palm branch - es strew be - fore him! Spread gar - ments! Shout and sing!
Your king, yet ev - 'ry na - tion its trib - ute too may bring.
His rule is peace and free - dom and jus - tice, truth, and love.



Then greet the King of glo - ry, fore - told in sa - cred sto - ry:
God's prom - ise will not fail you! No more shall doubt as - sail you!
All lands will bow be - fore him; their voic - es join your sing - ing:
So let your praise be sound - ing for kind - ness so a - bound - ing:



Ho - san - na to the Lord, for he ful - fills God's word!

Dismissal

P: Go in peace. Christ is near.

C: **Thanks be to God.**

Postlude

WORSHIP LEADERS

We give thanks for all who give of themselves for service to God and to this community.

Assisting Minister : Naaman Duckworth
Reader: Jeff Papke
Acolyte Colin Studer
Altar Guild: Judy Moon & Morgan Studer

The band members are Glenn Hoffman, Jim Gregory, and Karen Archbold.

The Altar Guild members are Judy Moon, Kristi Kittilstved, Nancy Trullinger, Morgan Studer, and Shawna Harouff

The Livestream operator are Phil Havlik and Rich Kittilstved.

The audio is run by Steve Castle.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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- None this week

WORSHIP NOTES

ABOUT ADVENT. According to the Christian worldview, humans need God to bring us life and salvation, and Christmas celebrates this coming of God in the incarnation of Jesus Christ. Christians affirm that Christ comes not only in a past event but also in our present life and the world's unfolding future. So it is that Advent is not about Mary's pregnancy but about the church's continual prayer that God will come (the root meaning of "advent") to us, bringing life to a dying world. Advent in the northern hemisphere is a time to meditate on the darkness in the universe, the social order, the lives of many people, and our own hearts, and to pray for God's salvation and wholeness for all. The holy communion celebrated each Sunday of Advent brings to us the Christ who is ever present for us with mercy and joy.

– *from Keeping Time: The Church's Years, © 2009 Augsburg Fortress Publishers*

IN TODAY'S PRAYERS you will hear us lift up the work of ELCA Global Mission. What is that acronym soup? ELCA refers to the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, our national denomination. To learn more about the ELCA and our partners in ministry around the country and throughout the world, visit www.ELCA.org.

LIVESTREAM OPERATORS Would you be willing to learn how our livestream technology works? Check in with Phil and Rich any Sunday following worship to see how you can become part of the livestream team.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ADVENT DEVOTIONS & CALENDARS are available in the narthex. Provided to us by the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America World Hunger ministry, these materials will draw our hearts and actions closer to God's Beloved who are food insecure – at home and abroad. Please take a booklet and a calendar with you on your way out of worship today.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SINGALONG Join us today following worship for our children to learn some Christmas songs to proclaim along with the Bible's story in worship next Sunday, December 18.

CHRISTMAS WORSHIP SCHEDULE Christmas Eve Worship services are scheduled for 5pm and 7:30pm. Both are "candlelight" services (FYI, sun sets at 5:26pm, so it won't be entirely dark outside by the end of 5pm service). The 5pm service is more oriented toward wiggly children and their families. On Christmas Day, Sunday, December 25, we will worship at 9:30am in person. Come in your pajamas! We will have *online-only* worship on Sunday, January 1, 2023.

OUR ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING is scheduled for Sunday, January 23, following worship. We will hold a budget hearing following worship on Sunday, January 8. Please mark your calendars to be part of our discernment and collaboration as a community of Christ.

NEW MEMBER CLASSES will begin in January. Reach out to Pastor Chris.

COFFEE HOUR has resumed! After a long hiatus we are thrilled to have coffee and donuts following worship. *This ministry of hospitality needs a few people each Sunday to pick up donuts, set up coffee and goodies, and clean up afterwards.* Please check with Kristi Kittilstved to learn what's involved and to sign-up.

RECURRING EVENTS

We gather each Wednesday during Advent at 7pm for **ADVENT EVENING PRAYER**. This is a delightful sung prayer service that lasts about 25 minutes. Please join us for this prayerful pause each Wednesday during Advent.

MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY is taking a pause during Advent, and will resume each Wednesday at 1pm, in the New Year.

NEW BIBLE STUDY meets each Tuesday, 7pm, at church. **New books for the December-February season of our curriculum have arrived** and are available in the narthex. This week's lesson is Lesson #2, dated December 11, "Doing the Right Thing."

MEN'S GROUP Saturday breakfasts and Bible Study gatherings will continue after the New Year. Our next breakfast is on Saturday, January 7. In preparation, please read **chapters 11-12 of *Breaking the Code***, and watch the session 6 video. Questions? Contact Tony Trullinger or Wes Harouff. Need a book? Pick one up in the church entranceway.

JOYFUL GIRLS gathers each month for fellowship and dinner. Contact Becky Suchomel or Lyn Nore if you have any questions.

SEASONED BELIEVERS meets every Tuesday, 9am, at the Chick-Fil-A on SR32 in Westfield.

OUR BSA SCOUT TROOPS 1910/1920 meet at the church on Monday nights at 7pm.


New Joy Lutheran Church is a spirited community called by God to extend a radical welcome, share a generous grace, nurture a transforming faith, and live God's promise.

Extend a Radical Welcome We are a spirited community that strives to welcome, value, accept, and nurture all people wherever they are in their relationship with God. Since our founding in 2002, New Joy has been committed to welcoming people of all races, incomes, and expressions of the LGBTQIA+ community.

Share a Generous Grace We are a spirited community which boldly proclaims that forgiveness, mercy, love, and salvation are free gifts of God's grace.

Nurture Transforming Faith We are a spirited community that receives faith as a gift of God that transforms us and the world.

Live God's Promise We are a spirited community that boldly lives in our Lord's promise of renewed and everlasting life.



The truth is that we don't always believe confidently, or pray wholeheartedly, or serve selflessly on our own. Yet when we come together in community we draw out the best in each other and in ourselves, lean on the faith of those around us, and seek the goodness of God for ourselves and for the world that God so loves.

Full of belief or doubt, confidence or questions? There is a place for you at New Joy. The people of New Joy are newcomers to Christianity and interfaith families, lifelong active church goers and people who have spent decades away from the church before finding their way to New Joy. There is a place for you at New Joy, too.

New Joy was established just in 2002. As a congregation we're still growing up. You might say we're in that awkward late teen /early twenties stage when we don't yet feel like an adult, but we're no longer a kid. We certainly haven't figured everything out, but we are having fun as we grow and as we see what God is putting before us. We hope you'll be part of our future.