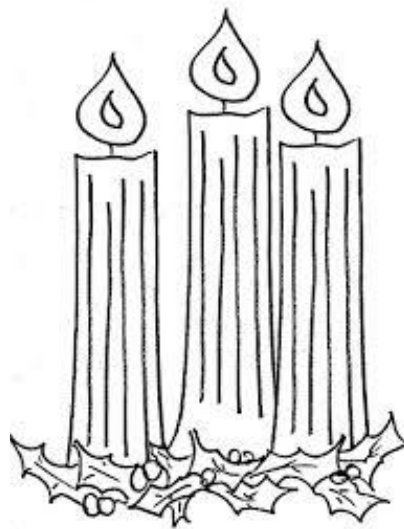


# THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 15, 2024

10:00 AM Service

Holy Communion: Rite II



639 Edgewater Drive • Dunedin, FL 34698  
(727) 733-4125 • Pastoral Care Number: (727) 275-0257  
www.COGSDunedin.com  
E-Mail the church office: info@cogsdunedin.com

Sunday Services at 8 and 10 AM • Wednesday at 6 PM

**Our Sunday 10 AM service is livestreamed**

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## WELCOME TO GOOD SHEPHERD

**Restrooms:** Handicap-accessible restrooms are located to the right as you go up the ramp through the archway across from the doors of the sanctuary.

**We have gluten-free wafers available:** Please tell us when you come to the altar rail.

**Standing, sitting, and kneeling:** Throughout the bulletin, there are invitations to stand, sit or kneel, as you choose. You are free to be seated at any time when that is best for you.

All music is reprinted and streamed with permission under OneLicense account #A-711594.

**A gentle Reminder: Please enter the Nave quietly and reverently and silence your phones.**

Most of the sung music is found in the blue hymnal, *The Hymnal, 1982*. In the bulletin, an "H" indicates the hymn section of the book; an "S" indicates it's from the service music section in the front of the book.

## GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

### VOLUNTARY

Festive Prelude on VENI EMMANUEL

George Schafer  
(1919-2001)

*[During the Voluntary, please prepare for worship by observing attentive silence.]*

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

*[Please stand when the bells sound and face the Baptistry in the rear of the sanctuary.]*

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

JEFFERSON  
Choir and Bells

### ENTRANCE HYMN H-65

Prepare the Way, O Zion

BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

Prepare the way, O Zion, your Christ is drawing near! Let every hill and valley a level way appear. Greet One who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.

[Refrain] Oh, blest is Christ that came in God's most holy name.

He brings God's rule, O Zion; he comes from heaven above. His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love. Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding. [Refrain]

Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior's rule embrace. His tidings of salvation proclaim in every place. All lands will bow before him, their voices will adore him.

[Refrain]

### THE OPENING ACCLAMATION

*Celebrant* Blessed be God: Father, Son, and Holy Spirit.

*People* And blessed be his kingdom, now and for ever. Amen.

### COLLECT FOR PURITY

*All* Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

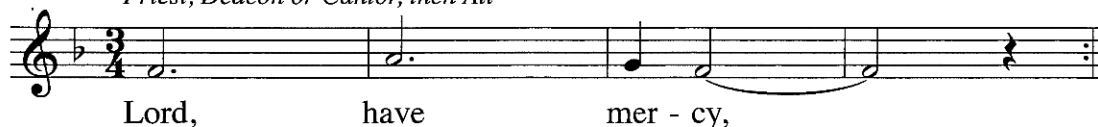
# KYRIE

## Lord, Have Mercy

Paul Hillebrand  
from *Come, Emmanuel Mass*

*Congregation echoes each phrase*

*Priest, Deacon or Cantor, then All*



*Priest, Deacon or Cantor, then All*



*Priest, Deacon or Cantor, then All*



## THE COLLECT OF THE DAY

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray... Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

## THE WORD OF GOD

*The people sit.*

### THE FIRST READING

Zephaniah 3:14-20

*Lector* The First Reading is taken from Zephaniah chapter 3...

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.

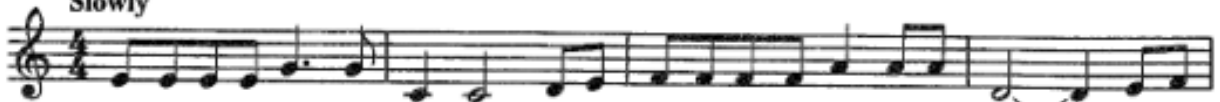
*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*All sing the refrain after the choir sings it the first time*

**REFRAIN**

Slowly



Sure-ly, it is God who saves me; I will trust in him and not be a - fraid. For the



Lord is my strong-hold and my sure de-fense, and he will be my Sav - ior.

**VERSE**

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;

**VERSE**

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.

**REFRAIN****REFRAIN****VERSE**

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

**REFRAIN (sung twice)****THE SECOND READING**

Philippians 4:4-7

*Lector The Second Reading is taken from Philippians chapter 4....*

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.

*Lector* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

*All stand as able.*

**THE GOSPEL ACCLAMATION**

Stephen Weber

Choir sings:

*Alleluia. Alleluia. I will send my messenger ahead of you,  
who will prepare your way before you. Alleluia. Alleluia.*

*Celebrant* The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Luke.

*People* **Glory to you, Lord Christ.**

*Celebrant* 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.

*Celebrant* The Gospel of the Lord.

*People* **Praise to you, Lord Christ.**

*The people sit.*

## SERMON

The Rev. Whitney Burton

**NICENE CREED** *All stand as able.*

*People* **We believe in one God, the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth, of all that is, seen and unseen.  
We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God, eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light, true God from true God,  
begotten, not made, of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.  
For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary, and was made man.  
For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.  
We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead, and the life of the world to come.  
AMEN.

## THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*Please sit, stand, or kneel, as you prefer.*

*Celebrant* In peace, we pray to you, Lord God.  
*Silence*

*Lector* For all people in their daily life and work;  
*People* **For our families, friends, and neighbors, and for those who are alone.**

*Lector* For this community, the nation, and the world;  
*People* **For all who work for justice, freedom, and peace.**

*Lector* For the just and proper use of your creation;  
*People* **For the victims of hunger, fear, injustice, and oppression.**

*Lector* For all who are in danger, sorrow, or any kind of trouble;  
*People* **For those who minister to the sick, the friendless, and the needy.**

*Lector* For the peace and unity of the Church of God;  
*People* **For all who proclaim the Gospel, and all who seek the Truth.**

*Lector* For the special needs and concerns of this congregation, especially [*add names from notebook*] and those we name aloud our in our hearts [*leave time*].  
*Silence*

*Lector* Hear us, Lord;  
*People* **For your mercy is great.**

*Lector* We thank you, Lord, for all the blessings of this life, especially the flowers given today to the Glory of God, and for the birthdays this week for Miles Burton, Judy Ratliff, Elena Goletz, Christine McLaughlin, Liz Hopwood, Llorra Wonder, Shirl Ahrens, Michael Tomalesky, Bethany Elder, Aubrey Elder and Barbara Groff and the anniversary of Cathy and Marc Jacobson.  
*Silence*

*Lector* We will exalt you, O God our King;  
*People* **And praise your Name for ever and ever.**

*Lector* We pray for all who have died, that they may have a place in your eternal kingdom, especially... *[add names from notebook]* and those we name aloud or in our hearts *[leave time]*. Lord, let your loving-kindness be upon them;

*People* **Who put their trust in you.**

*Lector* We pray to you also for the forgiveness of our sins.

*All* **Have mercy upon us, most merciful Father; in your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone; and so uphold us by your Spirit that we may live and serve you in newness of life, to the honor and glory of your Name; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **ABSOLUTION**

*Celebrant* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life.

*All* **Amen.**

### **THE GREETING OF PEACE**

*Celebrant* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*All may greet one another in the name of the Lord.*

## **THE HOLY COMMUNION**

### **OFFERTORY SENTENCE**

*Please be seated.*

**OFFERTORY** Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus Stephen Weber

### **THE PRESENTATION**

*All stand as able.*

*Celebrant* We gladly present the fruits of our lives to the God who creates us, redeems us and sustains us. May we have the grace to use them to heal God's world.

### **PRESENTATION HYMN**

GOD REST YE

**Prepare your heart, lift up your voice, join in the Advent song;  
walk in the light of God's own Son to whom we all belong.  
A little child shall lead us all, his love will make us strong!**

**O tidings of comfort and joy, comfort and joy,  
O tidings of comfort and joy!**

## THE GREAT THANKSGIVING: Eucharistic Prayer A

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Lift up your hearts.

*People* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*Celebrant* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

*People* **It is right to give him thanks and praise.**

*Celebrant* It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Father Almighty, Creator of heaven and earth. Because you sent your beloved Son to redeem us from sin and death, and to make us heirs in him of everlasting life; that when he shall come again in power and great triumph to judge the world, we may without shame or fear rejoice to behold his appearing. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your name:

**SANCTUS** *All*

MENDELSSOHN

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might adored.  
Heav'n and earth are shining bright with the glory of your light.  
Loud hosannas now we sing! In the highest may they ring!  
Blessed is the Coming One, Christ, Emmanuel, your Son.  
Glory in the highest! Holy God, your name be blest!**

*The Celebrant continues*

Holy and gracious Father: In your infinite love you made us for yourself; and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Father of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper Jesus took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is My Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me." Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

*All* **Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

*The Celebrant continues*

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, O Father, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts. Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food



and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ. By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever.

*People*      **Amen.**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

*Celebrant*      And now as our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,  
*People*      **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, for ever and ever.  
Amen.**

## THE BREAKING OF THE BREAD

*The Celebrant breaks the consecrated bread. A period of silence is kept.*

## THE FRACTION ANTHEM

Paul Hillebrand  
from *Come, Emmanuel Mass*

The musical score is written in 6/8 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of five staves of music. The first staff is for the Cantor, with lyrics: "Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the". The second staff is for All, with lyrics: "world, have mer - cy on us, have mer - cy on". The third staff shows two first endings for the word "us.", with the second ending leading to the final line. The fourth staff is for the Cantor, with lyrics: "Lamb of God, you take a-way the sins of the world,". The fifth staff is for All, with lyrics: "grant us peace, grant us peace.".

*Celebrant* The Gifts of God for the People of God.

*All are invited to receive the Sacrament. If you would like to receive wine you may do so by sipping from the Chalice or allowing the Eucharistic Minister to intinct (dip) the wafer for you.*

*If you desire a blessing instead of Communion, cross your arms over your chest.*

**COMMUNION** Improvisation on ABERYSTWYTH Aaron David Miller

**COMMUNION HYMN** View the Present through the Promise AR HYD Y NOS

**View the present through the promise, Christ will come again.  
Trust despite the deepening darkness, Christ will come again.  
Lift the world above its grieving through your watching and believing  
in the hope past hope's conceiving: Christ will come again.**

**Probe the present with the promise, Christ will come again.  
Let your daily actions witness, Christ will come again.  
Let your loving and your giving and your justice and forgiving  
be a sign to all the living: Christ will come again.**

**Match the present to the promise, Christ will come again.  
Make this hope your guiding premise, Christ will come again.  
Pattern all your calculating and the world you are creating  
to the advent you are waiting: Christ will come again.**

### **THE PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

*Celebrant* Let us pray...

*All* Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom. And now, Father, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord. To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

### **THE BLESSING**

**THE SENDING HYMN H-640** Watchman, Tell Us of the Night ABERYSTWYTH

**Watchman, tell us of the night, what its signs of promise are.  
Traveler, o'er yon mountain's height, see that glory-beaming star.  
Watchman, does its beauteous ray aught of joy or hope foretell?  
Traveler, yes; it brings the day, promised day of Israel.**

**Watchman, tell us of the night; higher yet that star ascends.  
Traveler, blessedness and light, peace and truth its course portends.  
Watchman, will its beams alone gild the spot that gave them birth?  
Traveler, ages are its own; see, it bursts o'er all the earth.**

Watchman, tell us of the night, for the morning seems to dawn.  
Traveler, darkness takes its flight, doubt and terror are withdrawn.  
Watchman, let thy wanderings cease; hie thee to thy quiet home.  
Traveler, lo! the Prince of Peace, lo! the Son of God is come!

### THE DISMISSAL

*Celebrant* Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

### VOLUNTARY

Toccata on ABERSTWYTH

Brenda Portman

### SERVING US TODAY

Celebrant	The Rev. Whitney Burton
Organist/Choirmaster	Tom Huffman
Crucifer/Server	Nancy Vallely
Torch/Chalicists	Miriam Benitez-Nixon, Joe Nixon
Lectors	Linda Wells, Sharon Ozbun
Prayers of the People	Nancy Fisher
Ushers	Nancy Fisher, Alan Mackay Ryan Stollenmaier, Sherry Boothe
Building & Grounds	Cheryl Sharpe
Welcome Table	Lynne Henderson, Jocelyn Frenette

## **Prayers are requested for:**

**The Week of Dec 8** – Marc J, Christopher J, Judith & Nels A, Helen Marie, Sara M, Priscilla & Tony B, Gene & Maureen B, Mandeville P, Michelle & Family, Kathy W & Gerry B, Bill GW, Bob M, Jen E, Debra F, Jim, Marilyn, Joe, Missy, Kimberly, Katie J, Ralph R, Michael W, Barbara T, Bob S, Anne C, Milly L, Olena & Family, Joseph W, Maggie, Kay, Terry, Jake, Brian, Heather S, Bonnie L, Kathy W, Michelle B, Gerry B, Dolores C, Nancy V, Billy V, Louise A, Linda W, Becky, Kipling, Keith M

**Celebrations this week: Birthdays** – Miles Burton, Judy Ratliff, Elena Goletz, Christine McLaughlin, Liz Hopwood, Llorra Wonder, Shirl Ahrens, Michael Tomalesky, Bethany Elder, Aubrey Elder and Barbara Groff

**Anniversary** – Cathy and Marc Jacobson

## **Announcements**

**Bagzilla Sunday** – Today we collect food and monetary donations for Dunedin Cares. Food items may be placed in the bins. Monetary gifts may be marked “Dunedin Cares”. High need items are pasta, pasta sauce, condiments, cereal and rice.

**Christmas Flowers & Music** – Today, December 15, is the last day for donations for special music and flowers for our Christmas services. To donate, either fill out an envelope located in the pews and front/rear of the church or fill out the online form. Please print names clearly. Minimum recommended donation amount is \$25. A listing of names will be included in all Christmas bulletins.

**Carol Sing** – Join the Bells of Hope for the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual Carol Sing this afternoon, Sunday, December 15 at 4pm. Sing along to your favorite carols and enjoy the beauty of the season.

**Farm Worker Christmas** – Today, Sunday, Dec. 15, is our final collection day for gifts or blue jeans for the Farm Workers. Please leave your gifts in the bins at church and in Kirk Hall. Or if you prefer, send a check made out to COGS noted “Farm Worker Fund” and we will shop for you.

**Soul Sisters** - The December meeting of the Soul Sisters will take place on Saturday, December 21 at 10 AM in Kirk Hall. All women of the parish are invited. Brunch will be served.

**Hot Cocoa with Santa** – Santa will be stopping at Good Shepherd on Sunday, December 22 after the 10 AM service. Hot cocoa and festive treats will be available.

## **COGS Christmas Services**

December 24 @ 5 PM – *Family Christmas Eve Service and Plug-In Pageant* – Live Streamed

December 24 @ 9 PM – *Candlelight Christmas Service* – Live Streamed (Music begins at 8:30)

December 25 @ 10 AM – *Christmas Day Service* (Note: incense will be used for this service.)