

The Lord's Day
All Saints Parish Church
December 14, 2025

Third Sunday of Advent

Meditation for Worship

Be exalted above the heavens, O God; let Your glory be above all the earth.
(Ps. 57:11)

"The Savior of all was promised beforehand, and in the fullness of time He appeared."

Athanasius (fourth-century bishop and theologian)

Lighting of the Advent Candle

Matt. 2:1-12

*Call to Worship

Ps. 91:1-4

He who dwells in the shelter of the Most High will abide in the shadow of the Almighty.

I will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress, My God, in whom I trust!"

For it is He who delivers you from the snare of the trapper

And from the deadly pestilence.

He will cover you with His pinions, and under His wings you may seek refuge;

His faithfulness is a shield and bulwark.

*Prayer of Invocation

*Hymn

Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates!

No. 297

Public Confession

We declare, heavenly Father, that You alone are God. All Your ways are holy, and Your mercy is beyond measure. We confess that we have fallen short of Your perfect standard in many ways and on many occasions. Even our thoughts, O Lord, have been sinful at times. Please forgive us for all our transgressions and lead us in the way of righteousness forevermore.

Words of Assurance

John 10:14-17

"I am the good shepherd, and I know My own and My own know Me, even as the Father knows Me and I know the Father; and I lay down My life for the sheep. I have other sheep, which are not of this fold; I must bring them also, and they will hear My voice; and they will become one flock with one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves Me, because I lay down My life so that I may take it again."

Response

Beautiful Savior

You are fairer than the sons of men; grace is poured upon Your lips; therefore God has blessed You forever. Ps. 45:2

1. Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, King of Cre - a - tion,
2. Beau - ti - ful Sav - ior, Lord of the na - tions,

Son of God and Son of Man! Tru - ly I'd love Thee,
Son of God and Son of Man! Glo - ry and hon - or,

Tru - ly I'd serve Thee, Light of my soul, my Joy, my Crown.
Praise, ad - o - ra - tion, Now and for - ev - er - more be Thine!

Anonymous, 1677
Tr. by Joseph A. Seiss, 1873

CRUSADER'S HYMN 5.6.8.5.5.8
Silesian folk song
Schlesische Volkslieder, Leipzig, 1842

Prayer and Collection of the Tithe and Offerings

*Doxology

No. 567

Old Testament Reading

Praising God for Salvation

Ps. 98

Response to the Word

"The grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever."

Amen!

Prayers of the People

*Responsive Reading: Heidelberg Catechism

53 Q. What do you believe concerning "the Holy Spirit"?

A. First, that the Spirit, with the Father and the Son, is eternal God.

Second, that he is given also to me, so that, through true faith, he makes me share in Christ and all his benefits, comforts me, and will remain with me forever.

54 Q. What do you believe concerning "the holy catholic church"?

A. I believe that the Son of God through his Spirit and Word, out of the entire human race, from the beginning of the world to its end, gathers, protects, and preserves for himself a community chosen for eternal life and united in true faith. And of this community I am and always will be a living member.

*Hymn

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

No. 293

New Testament Reading

Jesus the Way to the Father John 14:1-18

Response to the Word

The Word of the LORD.

Thanks be to God!

Prayer for the Ministry of the Word

Sermon *Anticipating the Messiah: Isaiah through John the Baptist*

Isa. 9; Luke 1

Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

*Hymn

To Us a Child of Hope Is Born

No. 306

*Benediction

* Congregation will please stand

Salvation Not of Ourselves

“No sinner was ever saved by giving his heart to God. We are not saved by our giving, we are saved by God’s giving.”

A.W. Pink

SOLI DEO GLORIA

The Use of Wine in the Observance of the Lord’s Supper

In light of the biblical account of the Last Supper and Jesus’ use of wine in representing His blood, All Saints Parish Church believes that the use of wine in the observance of the Lord’s Supper remains the proper symbol for representing His blood. We do, however, make occasional exceptions for the use of grape juice, with the hope that those holding such an exception will seek to understand the conviction of the church in this matter. Please speak to one of the elders if you wish to discuss this issue.

All Saints

A community of Christ-worshippers

Elders

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SOLA FIDE

SOLA SCRIPTURA

SOLA GRATIA

SOLO CHRISTO