<u>WELCOME</u>, Dear Guest! We are happy to have you join us for worship today. May the Lord speak to your heart and supply help for your life as we listen to God's Word. Please sign the Guest Book in the narthex or fill out a Welcome Card to place in the offering plate and come back soon!

<u>PRAYER AS WE PREPARE TO WORSHIP:</u> Dear Father in heaven, thank You for this time set aside to worship You. Please help me today, through the liturgy, Bible readings, hymns, and spoken message, to be strengthened by You for daily living throughout the new Church Year. Amen.

Welcome and Announcements

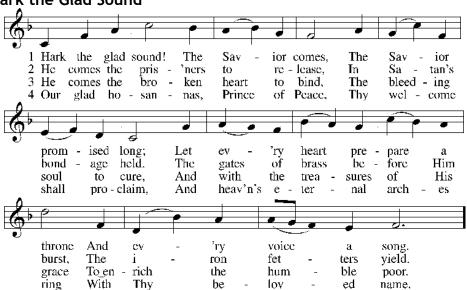
+ please silence cell phones +

Prelude

"Hark, A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding"

(Monk/Brauer)

349 Hark the Glad Sound



Stand

- **P** In the name of the Father and of the 

  → Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C Amen.
- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.
- **P** Our help is in the name of the Lord,
- who made heaven and earth.
- **P** I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
- and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,

- I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.
- P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

#### C Amen.

#### **Introit** (Sung by the Cantor)

The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight."

Hear, O my people, while I admonish you!

O Israel, if you would but listen to me!

I am the LORD your God, who brought you up out of the land of Egypt.

Open your mouth wide, and I will fill it.

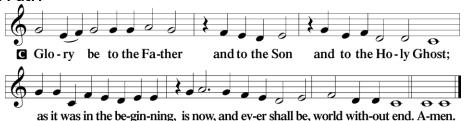
But my people did not listen to my voice;

Israel would not submit to me.

Oh, that my people would listen to me,

that Israel would walk in my ways!

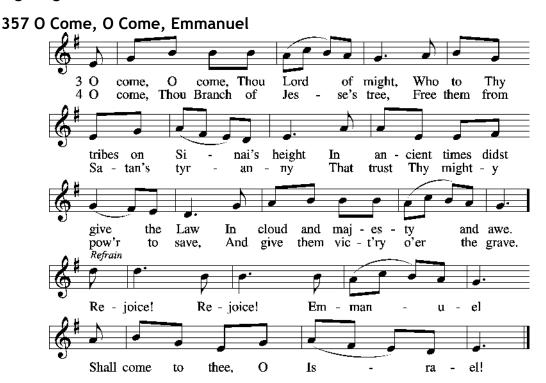
## Gloria Patri



## **Kyrie**



#### Lighting of the Advent Wreath



## Salutation and Collect of the Day

- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And with thy spirit.
- Let us pray. Stir up our hearts, O Lord, to make ready the way of Your only-begotten Son, that by His coming we may be enabled to serve You with pure minds; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Choir (8:30) "Lo, How A Rose E'er Blooming" (Praetorius)

Sit

## Old Testament Reading Malachi 3:1-7b

<sup>1</sup>"Behold, I send my messenger and he will prepare the way before me. And the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple; and the messenger of the covenant in whom you delight, behold, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts.

<sup>2</sup>But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap. <sup>3</sup>He will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver,

and he will purify the sons of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, and they will bring offerings in righteousness to the LORD. <sup>4</sup>Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

<sup>5</sup>"Then I will draw near to you for judgment. I will be a swift witness against the sorcerers, against the adulterers, against those who swear falsely, against those who oppress the hired worker in his wages, the widow and the fatherless, against those who thrust aside the sojourner, and do not fear me, says the LORD of hosts.

<sup>6</sup>"For I the LORD do not change; therefore you, O children of Jacob, are not consumed. <sup>7</sup>From the days of your fathers you have turned aside from my statutes and have not kept them."

**L** This is the Word of the Lord.

**C** Thanks be to God.

## **Gradual** (Sung by the Cantor)

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion.

Shout aloud, O daughter of Jerusalem.

Behold, your king is coming to you;

righteous and having salvation.

Blessèd is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

From the house of the Lord we bless you.

# Epistle *Philippians 1:2–11*

<sup>2</sup>Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. <sup>3</sup>I thank my God in all my remembrance of you, <sup>4</sup>always in every prayer of mine for you all making my prayer with joy, <sup>5</sup>because of your partnership in the gospel from the first day until now. <sup>6</sup>And I am sure of this, that he who began a good work in you will bring it to completion at the day of Jesus Christ. <sup>7</sup>It is right for me to feel this way about you all, because I hold you in my heart, for you are all partakers with me of grace, both in my imprisonment and in the defense and confirmation of the gospel. <sup>8</sup>For God is my witness, how I yearn for you all with the affection of Christ Jesus. <sup>9</sup>And it is my prayer that your love may abound more and more, with knowledge and all discernment, <sup>10</sup>so that you may approve what is excellent, and so be pure and blameless for the day of Christ, <sup>11</sup>filled with the fruit of righteousness that comes through Jesus Christ, to the glory and praise of God.

L This is the Word of the Lord. C Thanks be to God.

# Stand

#### Alleluia



# Holy Gospel Luke 3:1–20

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

# **C** Glory be to Thee, O Lord.

<sup>1</sup>In the fifteenth year of the reign of Tiberius Caesar, Pontius Pilate being governor of Judea, and Herod being tetrarch of Galilee, and his brother Philip tetrarch of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias tetrarch of Abilene, <sup>2</sup>during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John the son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>And he went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>4</sup>As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet, "The voice of one crying in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight.

<sup>5</sup>Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall become straight, and the rough places shall become level ways, <sup>6</sup>and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

<sup>7</sup>He said therefore 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? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruits in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our father.' For I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children for Abraham. <sup>9</sup>Even now the axe is laid to the root of the trees. Every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

<sup>10</sup>And the crowds asked him, "What then shall we do?" <sup>11</sup>And he answered them, "Whoever has two tunics is to share with him who has none, and whoever has food is to do likewise." <sup>12</sup>Tax collectors also came to be baptized and said to him, "Teacher, what shall we do?" <sup>13</sup>And he said to them, "Collect no more than you are authorized to do." <sup>14</sup>Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what shall we do?" And he said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or by false accusation, and be content with your wages."

<sup>15</sup>As the people were in expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Christ, <sup>16</sup>John answered them all, saying, "I baptize you with water, but he who is mightier than I is coming, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and with fire. <sup>17</sup>His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his barn, but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

<sup>18</sup>So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. <sup>19</sup>But Herod the tetrarch, who had been reproved by him for Herodias, his brother's wife, and for all the evil things that Herod had done, <sup>20</sup>added this to them all, that he locked up John in prison.

**P** This is the Gospel of the Lord.

**C** Praise be to Thee, O Christ.

#### Nicene Creed

I believe in one God, the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and of all things visible and invisible.

And in one Lord Jesus Christ, the only-begotten Son of God, begotten of His Father before all worlds, God of God, Light of Light, very God of very God, begotten, not made, being of one substance with the Father, by whom all things were made; who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary and was made man; and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate. He suffered and was buried. And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures and ascended into heaven and sits at the right hand of the Father. And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead, whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord and giver of life, who proceeds from the Father and the Son, who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified, who spoke by the prophets. And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church, I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins, and I look for the resurrection of the dead and the life + of the world to come. Amen.

Sit Children's Message

344 On Jordan's Bank the Baptist's Cry

#### Sermon

- P The peace of God, which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.
- C Amen.

#### Stand

#### Create in Me



# Prayer of the Church

# Lord's Prayer & Benediction

- 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.
- **P** The Lord be with you.
- **C** And with thy spirit.
- **P** Bless we the Lord.
- **C** Thanks be to God.
- The Lord bless you and keep you.

  The Lord make His face shine upon you and be gracious unto you.

  The Lord lift up His countenance upon you and 

  → give you peace.
- C Amen.

### 345 Hark! A Thrilling Voice Is Sounding



### Silent Prayer

**Postlude** 

"Lo! He Comes With Clouds Descending"

(Oliver/Shaw)

Offering - please place in offering boxes near sanctuary exits

#### Acknowledgments

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FAMILY PRAYERS: We pray for God's peace and comfort to be the friends and family of Bud Barlow and Patti Weitzel who have both passed away recently. We continue to pray for all those undergoing medical care or recovering including: Bob Donaldson, Jennifer Benson, Bud Barlow, Rosemarie Schlegel, Erik Simpson, Diane Clark, Lawrence Kettel, Linda Bruce, Deacon Tim Bruce, Tom & Bonita Hoskins, Dorothy Ludke, Bob Schoessler, Fred Swenson, Bob Barclay, Patti Weizel and son Kelly, Carolyn Stephens, Jean Collinson, Pat Skinner, Don Haas, Debbie Hayes, Larry Latson, Jean Gookins, Bruce Ludke, and for all our shut-ins. Missionaries of the month: Rev. Tim & Heidi Norton & their children Philip & Leslie serving at Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, in Navajo, N.M.

THOSE SERVING TODAY: Elder: (8:30) Jerry Walker; (11:00) Don Brueckner

Greeters: (8:30) Ken & Danielle Roth (11:00) Al & Peggy Streeter

Altar Care: Sylvia Baxter; Counters: Pat & Janice Moored

Lectors: (8:30) Neil Eklund; (11:00) Mike Millar

Ushers: (8:30) Bill Eichler, Roger Harmann; (11:00) Lynn & Jane Thompson

Audio/Visual Team: Pat Moored, Paul Schwabe, George Haslett

**OPPORTUNITIES FOR THIS WEEK:** [Sunday Worship Services: 8:30 & 11 am]

TODAY: 9:45 – 10:45 am "The Hstory of Divine Service III" taught by Rev. Owirla; Sunday School

MONDAY: 10–12 Laundry Mission; 1-2 pm Line Dancing in the multi-purpose room

7 pm Women's Evening Bible Study (WEBS) meets at Vardanega home

TUESDAY: 11:30 LWML CHRISTMAS POTLUCK PARTY

WEDNESDAY: 8:45 am Preschool Chapel 5 pm Bell Choir; 7:45 pm Voice Choir

5:45 pm Soup Supper; 7 pm Advent Worship Service

THURSDAY: 8:45 am & 12:30 pm Preschool Chapel;

7:30 am Men's Prayer Group; 5-7 pm Women's AA Group

10 am & 6:30 pm Living Way Bible Study; 12 pm Quilting Group

SATURDAY: 8 am Men's Fellowship Breakfast with guest speaker Rev. Cwirla

Our LWML collect "mites" or coins in the narthex the 1st Sunday of the month in support of national & District Mission Projects.

<u>WOMEN'S EVENING BIBLE STUDY</u>: meets tomorrow, Monday, December 9<sup>th</sup>, at 7:00 pm at the home of Patti Vardanega in Sequim. This informal group meets monthly and offers an opportunity to study God's Word in a home setting. All women of faith are welcome. Contact Maureen Meier for more information.

CHRISTMAS SHARE TREE MISSION: Our annual Christmas Share Tree mission shares the joy of Christmas through your generosity to give gifts to several families in our church and community, as well as kids in our Sequim School District without a permanent address. This year, we will once again keep the process simple by just collecting Safeway or Wal-Mart gift cards. To participate, please take an ornament from the Christmas Tree in the narthex, purchase the gift card requested, and return them to an Offering Box by, Sunday Dec. 8<sup>th</sup> or tomorrow (for school kids) & Dec. 15<sup>th</sup> for all other requests. Monetary donations for this purpose are also welcome! Thank you for helping to share the joy of God's love.

Questions may be directed to Coordinators: Alyson Schilke and Keren McCullem

**LADIES POTLUCK CHRISTMAS PARTY**: All women of Faith are invited to share in the spirit of Christmas joy at our Christmas party organized by our LWML, this Tuesday, Dec. 10<sup>th</sup> at 11:30 am. Please bring a food item to share, a \$10 gift for an exchange, and a non-perishable food item (*or cash*) to be donated to the Sequim Food Bank from our church.

<u>MEN'S FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST</u>: All men of Faith are welcome to come and enjoy a hearty breakfast this Saturday Dec. 14<sup>th</sup>, at 8 am in the Fellowship Hall. Our guest speaker for this event will be Rev. Bill Cwirla.

**2025 OFFERING BOXES**: are available to pick up and take home in the narthex.

**THANK YOU**: Barb Cason is deeply grateful to our congregation and church family for all the love, hugs, cards and support she has received since the passing her husband, Dave.





**SEQUIM COMMUNITY CHRISTMAS CHORUS:** The last presentation by the Sequim Community Christmas Chorus of "The Christmas Story" is *today* at 2 pm, at the Sequim Seventh Day Adventist Church. Admission is by donation.



**NORTHWEST WOMEN'S CHORALE**: Presents "Coming Together for the Holidays" at 7 pm, tomorrow, Monday, Dec. 9<sup>th</sup> at Holy Trinity Lurtheran Church, 301 Lopez Ave., Port Angeles.

SEQUIM MIDDLE SCHOOL & HIGH SCHOOL CHOIRS: "A Holiday You'll Never Forget" includes a solo you won't want to miss! SHS Auditorium, next Monday & Tuesday, Dec. 16 & 17<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm. (Both concerts are the same.) This is a fundraising event for these choirs and tickets need to be purchased online from the SHS website prior to the event for \$10 (\$8 for students). Note: There is a QR code on the posters in the narthex. If you need more assistance, please contact Pastor Roger – but not on a Sunday!

# **2024 Christmas Season Worship Services at Faith:**

# **Wed. Evening Advent Services**

5:45 pm Soup Supper, 7 pm Worship Service; Dec. 11th & 18th



# **Preschool Christmas Chapels with Parents**

Wed., Dec. 18<sup>th</sup> 10 am & Thurs., Dec. 19<sup>th</sup> 10:30 am & 2:15 pm





Christmas Eve Candlelight Services

Tuesday, Dec. 24th, 5:30 pm & 7 pm





# **Christmas Day Service with Holy Communion**

Wednesday, Dec. 25<sup>th</sup>, 10:30 am

