

THE THIRD WEDNESDAY IN ADVENT

December 15, 2021

7:00pm

ADVENT EVENING PRAYER INSERT

(Continued from page 8 of the worship booklet.)

PSALM 146

The Psalm is read responsively by verses. The pastor begins.

P: Praise the LORD! Praise the LORD, O my soul!

C: I will praise the LORD as long as I live; I will sing praises to my God while I have my being.

P: Put not your trust in princes, in a son of man, in whom there is no salvation.

C: When his breath departs, he returns to the earth; on that very day his plans perish.

P: Blessed is he whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the LORD his God,

C: who made heaven and earth, the sea, and all that is in them, who keeps faith forever;

P: who executes justice for the oppressed, who gives food to the hungry. The LORD sets the prisoners free;

C: the LORD opens the eyes of the blind. The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down; the LORD loves the righteous.

P: The LORD watches over the sojourners; he upholds the widow and the fatherless, but the way of the wicked he brings to ruin.

C: The LORD will reign forever, your God, O Zion, to all generations. Praise the LORD!

PSALM PRAYER

P: Let us pray. God of glory and power, happy indeed are those who have put their trust in you. Shine the brightness of your light upon us, that we may love you always with a pure heart and praise you forever; Through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

C: Amen

SCRIPTURE READING: Isaiah 7:1-14, The sign of Immanuel

In the days of Ahaz the son of Jotham, son of Uzziah, king of Judah, Rezin the king of Syria and Pekah the son of Remaliah the king of Israel came up to Jerusalem to wage war against it, but could not yet mount an attack against it. ²When the house of David was told, “Syria is in league with Ephraim,” the heart of Ahaz and the heart of his people shook as the trees of the forest shake before the wind. ³And the LORD said to Isaiah, “Go out to meet Ahaz, you and Shear-jashub your son, at the end of the conduit of the upper pool on the highway to the Washer's Field. ⁴And say to him, ‘Be careful, be quiet, do not fear, and do not let your heart be faint because of these two smoldering stumps of firebrands, at the fierce anger of Rezin and Syria and the son of Remaliah.

⁵Because Syria, with Ephraim and the son of Remaliah, has devised evil against you, saying, ⁶“Let us go up against Judah and terrify it, and let us conquer it for ourselves, and set up the son of Tabeel as king in the midst of it,” ⁷thus says the Lord GOD: “‘It shall not stand, and it shall not come to pass. ⁸For the head of Syria is Damascus, and the head of Damascus is Rezin. And within sixty-five years Ephraim will be shattered from being a people. ⁹And the head of Ephraim is Samaria, and the head of Samaria is the son of Remaliah. If you are not firm in faith, you will not be firm at all.’”

¹⁰Again the LORD spoke to Ahaz: ¹¹“Ask a sign of the LORD your God; let it be deep as Sheol or high as heaven.” ¹²But Ahaz said, “I will not ask, and I will not put the LORD to the test.” ¹³And he said, “Hear then, O house of David! Is it too little for you to weary men, that you weary my God also? ¹⁴Therefore the Lord himself will give you a sign. Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and shall call his name Immanuel.

A: The word of the Lord.

C Thanks be to God!

L: The Light shines in the darkness

C: and the darkness has not overcome it.

All who are able, stand

HYMN: “The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came” WOV 632

**The angel Gabriel from heaven came,
With wings as drifted snow, with eyes as flame;
“All hail to thee, O lowly maiden Mary,
Most highly favored lady.” Gloria!**

**“For know a blessed mother thou shalt be,
All generations laud and honor thee;
Thy son shall be Emmanuel, by seers foretold,
Most highly favored lady.”: Gloria!**

**Then gentle Mary meekly bowed her head;
“To me be as it pleaseth God,” she said.
“My soul shall laud and magnify God’s holy name.”
Most highly favored lady, Gloria!**

**Of her, Emmanuel, the Christ, was born
In Bethlehem all on a Christmas morn,
And Christian folk throughout the world will ever say:
“Most highly favored lady,” Gloria!**

All sit

MEDITATION

All who are able, stand

*The liturgy continues on page 8 of the worship booklet with the ANNUNCIATION
and MAGNIFICAT.*

“The Angel Gabriel from Heaven Came” WOV 632: Text: Public Domain.

