

**The Second Sunday in Advent  
Baptism of Declan Nile Yaeger  
December 10, 2023  
Heritage Lutheran Church  
Apple Valley, MN  
8:00 a.m.**



The Order of Matins - ELH page 109

**1. Welcome**

**2. The Confession Of Sin**

**Pastor** Dearly Beloved: We have come together in the presence of God our heavenly Father, to render thanks for the great benefits that we have received at His hand, to set forth His most worthy praise, to hear His holy Word, and to ask for ourselves and on behalf of others, those things that are necessary for our life and salvation. O come, let us worship Him! Let us kneel and bow down before Him. Let us confess our sins with penitent hearts, and obtain forgiveness by His infinite grace and mercy.

**Congregation** Almighty and most merciful Father, we have strayed from Your ways like lost sheep. We have followed the devices and desires of our hearts. We have offended against Your holy law. We have done those things which we should not have done, and we have not done those things which we should have done. Have mercy on us, O Lord! Spare us and restore us, according to the promises You have declared to us in Jesus Christ, our Lord. For His sake grant that we may live a godly, righteous and sober life, to the glory of Your holy name.

*Absolution*

**Pastor** The almighty and most merciful Lord has granted us pardon and forgiveness of all our sins, grace for true repentance and amendment of life, and the comfort of the Holy Spirit.

**Congregation** Amen.

### 3. Opening Hymn #73 "Thine Is The Glory"

1 Thine is the glory,  
Risen, conqu'ring Son;  
Endless is the vict'ry  
Thou o'er death hast won!  
Angels in bright raiment  
Rolled the stone away,  
Kept the folded grave clothes  
Where Thy body lay.

Refrain:

Thine is the glory,  
Risen, conqu'ring Son;  
Endless is the vict'ry  
Thou o'er death hast won!

2 Lo Jesus meets thee,  
Risen from the tomb!  
Lovingly He greets thee,  
Scatters fear and gloom;  
Let His church with gladness,  
Hymns of triumph sing,  
For the Lord now liveth;  
Death hath lost its sting! (Refrain)

3 Faith's hand doth touch Thee,  
Glorious Prince of life;  
Life is naught without Thee;  
Aid us in our strife;  
Make us more than conqu'rors,  
Through Thy deathless love;  
Bring us through death's portals  
To Thy home above. (Refrain)

### 4. Opening Versicles

**Pastor** O Lord, open my lips.

♪ **Congregation** And my mouth shall show forth Your praise.

**Pastor** Make haste, O God, to deliver me.

♪ **Congregation** Make haste to help me, O Lord. Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be: Forevermore. Amen.

### 5. The Invitatory and Venite

**Pastor** Oh come, let us worship the Lord.

♪ **Congregation** For He is our Maker.

Oh, come let us sing to the Lord:

let us make a joyful noise to the Rock of our salvation.

Let us come before His presence with thanksgiving:

and make a joyful noise to Him with psalms.

For the Lord is a great God: and a great King above all Gods.

In His hand are the deep places of the earth:

the strength of the hills is His also.

The sea is His, for He made it: and His hands form-ed the dry land.

Oh, come, let us worship and bow down:

let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker.

For He is our God: and we are the people of His pasture

and the sheep of His hand.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son: and to the Holy Ghost;  
As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forevermore. Amen.

**6. “Children of the Heavenly Father”** Piano/Flute Duet by Julie Wright & Lynn Merseth - arr. Adams

**7. Rite of Baptism of Declan Nile Yaeger** (Officiant—Rev. Nile Merseth, Declan’s Grandfather)

**8. Baptismal Hymn #177 “I Am Jesus’ Little Lamb”**

1 I am Jesus’ little lamb, Ever glad at heart I am,  
For my Shepherd gently guides me, Knows my need, and well provides me,  
Loves me every day the same, Even calls me by my name.

2 Day by day, at home, away, Jesus is my Staff and Stay.  
When I hunger, Jesus feeds me, Into pleasant pastures leads me;  
When I thirst, He bids me go Where the quiet waters flow.

3 Who so happy as I am, Even now the Shepherd’s lamb?  
And when my short life is ended, By His angel host attended,  
He shall fold me to His breast, There within His arms to rest.

**9. Psalm 19** (read responsively by whole verse)

<sup>1</sup> The heavens declare the glory of God, and the sky above proclaims his handiwork.

<sup>2</sup> Day to day pours out speech, and night to night reveals knowledge.

<sup>3</sup> There is no speech, nor are there words, whose voice is not heard.

<sup>4</sup> Their voice goes out through all the earth, and their words to the end of the world.

In them he has set a tent for the sun,

<sup>5</sup> which comes out like a bridegroom leaving his chamber, and, like a strong man, runs its course with joy.

<sup>6</sup> Its rising is from the end of the heavens, and its circuit to the end of them, and there is nothing hidden from its heat.

<sup>7</sup> The law of the LORD is perfect, reviving the soul; the testimony of the LORD is sure, making wise the simple;

<sup>8</sup> the precepts of the LORD are right, rejoicing the heart; the commandment of the Lord is pure, enlightening the eyes;

<sup>9</sup> the fear of the LORD is clean, enduring forever; the rules of the LORD are true, and righteous altogether.

<sup>10</sup> More to be desired are they than gold, even much fine gold; sweeter also than honey and drippings of the honeycomb.

<sup>11</sup> Moreover, by them is your servant warned; in keeping them there is great reward.

<sup>12</sup> Who can discern his errors? Declare me innocent from hidden faults.

<sup>13</sup> Keep back your servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me! Then I shall be blameless, and innocent of great transgression.

<sup>14</sup> Let the words of my mouth and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in your sight, O LORD, my rock and my redeemer.

Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, forevermore. Amen.

**10. Old Testament Lesson** *Isaiah 40:1-11*

<sup>1</sup> Comfort, comfort my people, says your God. <sup>2</sup> Speak tenderly to Jerusalem, and cry to her that her warfare is ended, that her iniquity is pardoned, that she has received from the LORD’s hand double for all her sins. <sup>3</sup> A voice cries: “In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD; make straight in the desert a highway for our God. <sup>4</sup> Every valley shall be lifted up, and every mountain and hill be made low; the uneven ground shall become level, and the rough places a plain. <sup>5</sup> And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed, and all flesh shall see it together, for the mouth of the LORD has spoken.” <sup>6</sup> A voice says, “Cry!” And I said, “What shall I cry?” All flesh is grass, and all its beauty is like the flower of the field. <sup>7</sup> The grass withers, the flower fades when the breath of the LORD blows on it; surely the people are grass. <sup>8</sup> The

grass withers, the flower fades, but the word of our God will stand forever. <sup>9</sup> Go on up to a high mountain, O Zion, herald of good news; lift up your voice with strength, O Jerusalem, herald of good news; lift it up, fear not; say to the cities of Judah, "Behold your God!"

<sup>10</sup> Behold, the Lord GOD comes with might, and his arm rules for him; behold, his reward is with him, and his recompense before him. <sup>11</sup> He will tend his flock like a shepherd; he will gather the lambs in his arms; he will carry them in his bosom, and gently lead those that are with young.

### 11. Heritage Choir "Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming" arr. Praetorius

Es ist ein Ros entsprungen, aus einer Wurzel zart,  
*Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming From tender stem hath sprung:*

wie uns die Alten sungen, von Jesse kam die Art  
*Of Jesse's lineage coming As men of old have sung.*

Und hat ein Blümlein bracht mitten im kalten Winter, wohl zu der halben Nacht.  
*It came a flow'ret bright, Amid the cold of winter, When half-spent was the night.*

Lo, how a Rose e'er blooming From tender stem hath sprung:  
Of Jesse's lineage coming As men of old have sung.  
It came a flow'ret bright, Amid the cold of winter, When half-spent was the night.

Isaiah 'twas foretold it, The Rose I have in mind,  
With Mary we behold it, The virgin mother kind.  
To show God's love aright She bore to men a Savior When half-spent was the night.

This Flow'r whose fragrance tender With sweetness fills the air,  
Dispels with Glorious splendor The darkness ev'rywhere.  
True Man, yet very God, From sin and death He saves us And lightens ev'ry load.

### 12. The Epistle 2 Peter 3:8-14

<sup>8</sup> But do not overlook this one fact, beloved, that with the Lord one day is as a thousand years, and a thousand years as one day. <sup>9</sup> The Lord is not slow to fulfill his promise as some count slowness, but is patient toward you, not wishing that any should perish, but that all should reach repentance. <sup>10</sup> But the day of the Lord will come like a thief, and then the heavens will pass away with a roar, and the heavenly bodies will be burned up and dissolved, and the earth and the works that are done on it will be exposed. <sup>11</sup> Since all these things are thus to be dissolved, what sort of people ought you to be in lives of holiness and godliness, <sup>12</sup> waiting for and hastening the coming of the day of God, because of which the heavens will be set on fire and dissolved, and the heavenly bodies will melt as they burn! <sup>13</sup> But according to his promise we are waiting for new heavens and a new earth in which righteousness dwells. <sup>14</sup> Therefore, beloved, since you are waiting for these, be diligent to be found by him without spot or blemish, and at peace.

### 13. The Gospel Mark 1:1-8

<sup>1</sup> The beginning of the gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. <sup>2</sup> As it is written in Isaiah the prophet, "Behold, I send my messenger before your face, who will prepare your way, <sup>3</sup> the voice of one crying in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight,'" <sup>4</sup> John appeared, baptizing in the wilderness and proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. <sup>5</sup> And all the country of Judea and all Jerusalem were going out to him and were being baptized by him in the river Jordan, confessing their sins. <sup>6</sup> Now John was clothed with camel's hair and wore a leather belt around his waist and ate locusts and wild honey. <sup>7</sup> And he preached, saying, "After me comes he who is mightier than I, the strap of whose sandals I am not worthy to stoop down and untie. <sup>8</sup> I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

**Pastor** O Lord, have mercy upon us!

♪ **Congregation** Thanks be to You, O Lord!

## **14. Children's Message**

### **15. Sermon Hymn #94 "O How Shall I Receive Thee" (verses 1,4,5,7,10)**

1 O how shall I receive Thee, How welcome Thee aright!  
All nations long to greet Thee, My hope, my heart's delight!  
O Jesus, Jesus, set Thee Thy lamp within my breast,  
And by its guidance let me Know what doth please Thee best.

4 I lay in fetters groaning, Thou com'st to set me free;  
I stood, my shame bemoaning, Thou com'st to honor me.  
A glory Thou dost give me, A treasure safe on high,  
That will not fail or leave me As earthly riches fly.

5 Naught, naught, dear Lord, could move Thee To leave Thy rightful place  
Save love, for which I love Thee; A love that could embrace  
A world where sorrow dwelleth, Which sin and suff'ring fill,  
More than the tongue e'er telleth; Yet Thou couldst love it still!

7 No care nor effort either Is needed day or night,  
How ye may draw Him hither In your own strength and might.  
He comes, He comes with gladness, Moved by His love alone,  
To calm your fear and sadness, To Him they well are known.

10 He comes to judge the nations, A terror to His foes,  
A Light of consolations And blessed Hope to those  
Who love the Lord's appearing. O glorious Sun, now come,  
Send forth Thy beams so cheering, And guide us safely home!

## **16. Sermon – "Back To The Beginning" *Mark 1:1-8***

### **17. The Offering**

### **18. Prayer**

### **19. Te Deum Hymn #42 "God We Praise You"**

1 God, we praise You! God, we bless You! God, we name You sovereign Lord!  
Mighty King whom angels worship, Father, by Your church adored:  
All creation shows Your glory, Heav'n and earth draw near Your throne,  
Singing "Holy, holy, holy, Lord of hosts, and God alone!"

2 True apostles, faithful prophets, Saints who set their world ablaze,  
Martyrs, once unknown, unheeded, Join one growing song of praise,  
while Your church on earth confesses One majestic Trinity:  
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, God, our hope eternally.

3 Jesus Christ, the king of glory, Everlasting Son of God;  
Humble was Your Virgin Mother, Hard the lonely path You trod:  
By Your cross is sin defeated, Hell confronted face to face,  
Heaven opened to believers, Sinners justified by grace.

4 Christ, at God's right hand victorious, You will judge the world You made;  
Lord, in mercy help Your servants For whose freedom You have paid:  
Raise us up from dust to glory, Guard us from all sin today.  
King enthroned above all praises, Save Your people, God, we pray.

## 20. Prayers

**The Kyrie** Sung by All

Lord, have mercy upon us. Christ, have mercy upon us. Lord, have mercy upon us.

**The Lord's Prayer** Sung by All

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.

**The Collect**

**Pastor** Let us pray: O Lord, our heavenly Father, almighty and everlasting God, having safely brought us to the beginning of this day, defend us in the same with Your mighty power and grant that this day we fall into no sin, neither run into any kind of danger, but that all our doing, being ordered by Your governance, may be righteous in Your sight: through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord, who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one true God, now and forever.

♪ **Congregation** Amen.

## 21. Benedicamus & Benediction

**Pastor** Let us bless the Lord!

♪ **Congregation** Thanks be to God!

**Pastor** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with us all.

♪ **Congregation** Amen.

## 22. Benediction Hymn #104 "O Bride Of Christ, Rejoice" (Tune: ELH #467 "In God My Faithful God") (verses 1,3,5,6)

1 O bride of Christ, rejoice!  
Exultant raise thy voice  
To hail the day of glory  
Foretold in sacred story.  
Hosanna, praise, and glory,  
Our King, we bow before Thee.

3 He wears no kingly crown,  
Yet as a King He's known;  
Though not arrayed in splendor,  
He still makes death surrender.  
Hosanna, praise, and glory,  
Our King, we bow before Thee.

5 Thy heart now open wide,  
Bid Christ with thee abide;  
He graciously will hear thee,  
And be forever near thee.  
Hosanna, praise, and glory,  
Our King, we bow before Thee.

6 Then go thy Lord to meet,  
Strew palm-leaves at His feet;  
Thy garments spread before Him  
And honor and adore Him.  
Hosanna, praise, and glory,  
Our King, we bow before Thee.

### **Announcements**

**Church Council** – The Church Council will meet on Tuesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

**Advent Midweek Worship** – Join us at 6:30 pm each Wednesday for our midweek Advent Worship service. We will have a service on the following Wednesdays: December 13<sup>th</sup> and December 20<sup>th</sup>. We will have supper before the services at 5:15 pm.

**Call Meeting** – We will have a call meeting on Sunday, December 17<sup>th</sup> between services.

**TLC Christmas Gathering** – Monday, December 18<sup>th</sup> at Jane Fahning's home (16242 Dutch Barn Drive) at 5:30 p.m. Please bring an appetizer or dessert to share. All women of the congregation are welcome.

**Women's Bible Study** – The Monday Evening Bible Class is studying Ecclesiastes. The group meets at church at 6:30 pm. Contact Ruth Braun if you would like more information. We will meet on the 11<sup>th</sup> of December and then reconvene on January 8<sup>th</sup>.

**Men's Bible Study** – Men's Bible study will reconvene after the New Year.

**Meditations** – The new meditations are available on the welcome stand.

**Fellowship** - Volunteers are always needed to provide fellowship food every Sunday. Please sign up on the volunteer board.

**Choir** – The choir meets on Wednesday evenings at 7:00. New members are always welcome!