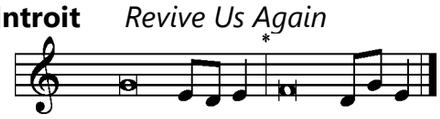
The Third Sunday in Advent
December 14-15, 2024
Divine Service, Setting Three, p. 184

Prelude

Invocation, Confession, and Absolution (*stand*) p. 184

Introit *Revive Us Again* Psalm 85:1–2, 6, 8; antiphon: Philippians 4:4–5

Rejoice in the Lord | always;*
again I will | say, Rejoice.
Let your reasonableness be known to | everyone.*
The Lord | is at hand.
LORD, you were favorable | to your land;*
you restored the fortunes of | Jacob.
You forgave the iniquity of your | people;*
you covered | all their sin.
Will you not revive | us again,*
that your people may re- | joice in you?
Let me hear what God the | LORD will speak,*
for he will speak peace to his people, to his saints;
but let them not turn back to | folly.
Glory be to the Father and | to the Son*
and to the Holy | Spirit;
as it was in the be- | ginning,*
is now, and will be forever. | Amen.
Rejoice in the Lord | always;*
again I will | say, Rejoice.
Let your reasonableness be known to | everyone.*
The Lord | is at hand.

Kyrie p. 186
Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

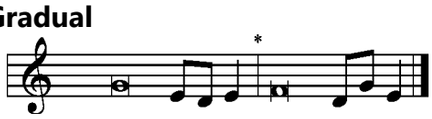
Collect of the Day p. 189
P The Lord be with you.
C **And with thy spirit.**
P Lord Jesus Christ, we implore You to hear our prayers and to lighten the darkness of our hearts by Your gracious visitation; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. **Amen.** (*sit*)

Old Testament *Comfort for God's People* Isaiah 40:1–8
[1]Comfort, comfort my people, says your God.
[2]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.
[3]A voice cries:
"In the wilderness prepare the way of the LORD;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

[4]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.
[5]And the glory of the LORD shall be revealed,
and all flesh shall see it together,
for the mouth of the LORD has spoken."

[6]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.
[7]The grass withers, the flower fades
when the breath of the LORD blows on it;
surely the people are grass.
[8]The grass withers, the flower fades,
but the word of our God will stand forever.

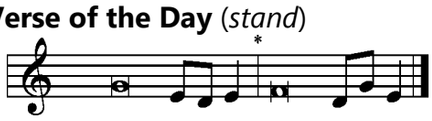
P This is the word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual Psalm 80:1-2

You who are enthroned upon the cherubim, | shine forth.
Stir up your might and come to | save us!
Give ear, O Shepherd of | Israel,
you who lead Joseph | like a flock!

Epistle *The Ministry of the Apostles* 1 Corinthians 4:1–5

[1]This is how one should regard us, as servants of Christ and stewards of the mysteries of God. [2]Moreover, it is required of stewards that they be found trustworthy. [3]But with me it is a very small thing that I should be judged by you or by any human court. In fact, I do not even judge myself. [4]I am not aware of anything against myself, but I am not thereby acquitted. It is the Lord who judges me. [5]Therefore do not pronounce judgment before the time, before the Lord comes, who will bring to light the things now hidden in darkness and will disclose the purposes of the heart. Then each one will receive his commendation from God.

P This is the word of the Lord.
C **Thanks be to God.**

Verse of the Day (*stand*) Psalm 80:2b

Alleluia. Alleluia.
Stir up | your might, * and come to | save us.
Alleluia. Alleluia.

Holy Gospel *Messengers from John the Baptist* Matthew 11:2-11

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Matthew, the eleventh chapter.
C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

[2]When John heard in prison about the deeds of the Christ, he sent word by his disciples [3]and said to him, "Are you the one who is to come, or shall we look for another?" [4]And Jesus answered them, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: [5]the blind receive their sight and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised up, and the poor have good news preached to them. [6]And blessed is the one who is not offended by me."

[7]As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds concerning John: "What did you go out

into the wilderness to see? A reed shaken by the wind? [8]What then did you go out to see? A man dressed in soft clothing? Behold, those who wear soft clothing are in kings' houses. [9]What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. [10]This is he of whom it is written,

"'Behold, I send my messenger before your face,
who will prepare your way before you.'

[11]Truly, I say to you, among those born of women there has arisen no one greater than John the Baptist. Yet the one who is least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he."

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.
C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Hymn of the Day (*sit*) "Hark! A Thrilling Voice is Sounding" LSB 345
soloist sts. 2, 4

Sermon "Guess Who's Coming to Dinner!!" Matthew 11:2-11

Apostles' Creed (*stand*) p. 192

Offering (*sit*)

Offertory (*stand*) p. 192

Prayer of the Church *congregation responds "Hear our prayer"*

Preface p. 194

Sanctus p. 195

Lord's Prayer p. 196

Words of Institution p. 197

Pax Domini

Agnus Dei p. 198

Distribution (*sit*) "When All the World Was Cursed" LSB 346

Nunc Dimittis (*stand*) p. 199

Thanksgiving p. 200

Salutation and Benedicamus p. 201

Benediction p. 202

Closing Hymn "Hark the Glad Sound" LSB 349

Postlude

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