

Third Sunday of Advent

December 16, 2018

Rejoice in the Lord Always!



Again I Say, Rejoice!

GOLD HILL EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

A CONGREGATION OF THE MONTANA SYNOD OF

THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH IN AMERICA (ELCA)

Welcome to Gold Hill Evangelical Lutheran Church, and a special welcome to our guests and those returning after a time away. We're gathered as a Christian community to worship the Lord!

Please know that you are always welcome here.

***Our Congregation's Mission Statement:
EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT, UNITED TO SERVE***

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning!

Please let us know if there are other ways we can be of service. Guests are invited to fill out the small green contact card in the rack in front of you and hand it to the Pastor or other worship leaders or place it in the offering plate. We promise not to 'stalk' anyone – we're just trying to let you know we care.

The Guiding Principles of God's People at Gold Hill Lutheran

Principle 1: Jesus Christ is our Lord & Savior

Principle 2: The Holy Spirit & worship strengthen us

Principle 3: We are a welcoming & inviting community in Christ

Principle 4: We share the Word with confidence and courage

Principle 5: Our faith leads us to serve joyfully

Principle 6: We are generous with our gifts

www.Facebook.com/GoldHillLutheranChurch.ELCA.ButteMT

Check out our GROWING website at www.GoldHillLutheran.org

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Pastor Laurie Jungling, Interim Pastor –

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Today's Worship Leaders

Worship Leader:	Pastor Laurie Jungling
Assisting Minister:	Peggy Graving
Music Ministers:	Shelly Clark
Communion Ministers:	Miriam Haley & Dorothy Tallon
Greeters/Ushers:	Regan & Peggy Dean
Additional Servant Ministers:	Ruschelle Tyvand, Tavia Broudy

Today's Liturgy: Setting 3 ELW, p. 138

P=Presiding Minister A=Assisting Minister

C=Congregation

GATHERING

Welcome

Lighting of the Advent Candle (*Sing as the Candle is lit*)

A: Today we relight the candle of hope and expectation, recalling God's promise to send a Savior. We also relight the candle of peace and preparation, remembering the voice crying out in the wilderness, "prepare ye the way of the Lord." Now, as we light the candle of joy, may our hearts be forever filled with the joy of Christ's coming and proclaim it to the world.

{Sing} *Come to us, O Lord of Glory and shine in our Hearts.*

Come to us, O Lord of Glory and make us anew.

Lord, we wait for you. {3 times}

Come Lord of Glory. © 2011 spiritandsong.com CCLI License # 3030246

A: Let us pray,

C: God of joy, during this Advent season, we are filled with joy in the hope of Jesus your Son who comes to us in peace. Help us to prepare our lives for Christ's Advent within us. In the precious name of Jesus we pray. Amen.

Confession & Forgiveness

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, † one God, the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free, the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy, the Dawn from on high who guides us into peace. **Amen.**

Let us come before God in confession.

Silence is kept for reflection.

C: O God, to you we lift up our souls. You know us through and through; we confess our sins to you.

Remember not our sins but remember us with your steadfast love. Show us your ways; teach us your paths; and lead us in justice and truth, for the sake of your goodness in Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

P: Children of God, come with joy and draw water from the well of salvation. Remember the gift of baptism: your sin is washed away in the name of † Jesus; you belong to Christ; you are anointed to serve. Stand up and raise your heads! The reign of God is near. **Amen.**

Gathering Song “Rejoice, Rejoice Believers” ELW #244

Greeting ELW p. 138

Kyrie ELW p. 138

“This is the Feast” ELW p. 140-1

Prayer of the Day

C: Stir up the wills of your faithful people, Lord God, and open our ears to the preaching of John, that rejoicing in your salvation, we may bring forth the fruits of repentance; through Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen

WORD (all scriptures are on the back pages of the bulletin)

Old Testament Zephaniah 3:14-20

Psalm Isaiah 12:2-6

Reading from the Early Church Philippians 4:4-7

Gospel Acclamation ELW p. 142

Gospel Luke 3:7-18

Young People's Message Pastor Laurie

Sermon Pastor Laurie

Hymn of the Day "Comfort, Comfort Now My People"

ELW #256

The Apostles Creed (see the folder in the back inside cover)

Prayers of Intercession

Respond to each petition with **Hear our prayer.**

Peace

P: The Peace of Christ be with you always.

C: **And also with you.**

Gathering of Offering

Offertory "Our Gifts Belong to You"

Our gifts belong to you Lord, our gifts belong to you.

We lift them up to you, Lord, and sing Alleluia.

We lift them up to you, Lord, and sing Alleluia.

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Offering Prayer

C: God of abundance, we bring before you the precious fruits of your creation, and with them our very lives. Teach us patience and hope as we care for all those in need until the coming of your Son, our Savior and Lord. Amen.

MEAL

Great Thanksgiving ELW p. 144 (Spoken)

Holy, Holy, Holy ELW p. 144

Words of Institution

The Lord's Prayer ELW p. 145

Lamb of God ELW p. 146

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

(Served Continuously)

Communion Blessing

Prayer After Communion

SENDING

Benediction

Announcements

Sending Song "All Earth is Hopeful" ELW #266

Dismissal

A: Go in peace. Christ is with you!

C: We go, empowered by the Holy Spirit, united to Serve.

Thanks be to God!



Zephaniah 3:14-20

14 Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel! Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem! 15 The Lord has taken away the judgments against you, he has turned away your enemies. The king of Israel, the Lord, is in your midst; you shall fear disaster no more. 16 On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem: Do not fear, O Zion; do not let your hands grow weak. 17 The Lord, your God, is in your midst, a warrior who gives victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing 18 as on a day of festival. I will remove disaster from you, so that you will not bear reproach for it. 19 I will deal with all your oppressors at that time. And I will save the lame and gather the outcast, and I will change their shame into praise and renown in all the earth. 20 At that time I will bring you home, at the time when I gather you; for I will make you renowned and praised among all the peoples of the earth, when I restore your fortunes before your eyes, says the Lord.

Isaiah 12: 2-6

A: Surely God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid,

**C: for the Lord God is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.**

A: With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation. And you will say on that day:

**C: Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name;
make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name
is exalted.**

A: Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously;
let this be known in all the earth.

**C: Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.**

Philippians 4:4-7

4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. 5 Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near. 6 Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God. 7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Luke 3:7-18

7 John said 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? 8 Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, "We have Abraham as our ancestor"; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. 9 Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire." 10 And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" 11 In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." 12 Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" 13 He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." 14 Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

15 As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, 16 John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 17 His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire." 18 So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.