



WITH

JOY  
you will draw water  
from the wells of  
salvation.

~ Isaiah 12:3 ~

***Third Sunday of Advent  
Gaudete Sunday - Rejoicing  
December 12, 2021  
Service of Word and Table***

**Prelude**

***Wachet Auf*** – J. S. Bach

**Invitation**

**Call to Worship**

***from Psalm 126***

The Lord has done great things for us!

**And we are filled with joy!**

Our God has turned our weeping into singing,

**our tears into songs of joy!**

O Christ of God, come anew in our hearts this day,

**and remain in us forever.**

**Confession and Forgiveness:**

Lord Christ,

**we confess our willingness to be loved**

**but also our reluctance to love.**

**We confess our readiness to accept your forgiving love**

**but also our refusal to forgive.**

**We confess our eagerness to grasp your offer of redeeming**

**love but also our resistance to follow you without question.**

**In this Advent time, forgive us our failure**

**to respond as we should.**

**Come to us anew, and by your grace, assist us to receive you**

**with joy, as the shepherds;**

**with gratitude, as Simeon;**

**with obedience, as Mary;**

**with love, as you have loved us.**

**Even so: come, Lord Jesus. Amen**

***Silent Confession***

Hear now the good news of the gospel! As a called and ordained Minister of the Church of Christ, and by Christ's authority, I thereby declare to you the entire forgiveness of all your sins, in the name of Jesus Christ, Our Lord and Savior. Amen

**\*Advent Carol: Bulletin Page: *Hail to the Lord's Anointed***

**\*Lighting of the Advent Wreath**

The Advent wreath is a circle with no beginning and no end.  
It is a symbol of God's unending love and faithfulness.

**Isaiah the prophet calls us to prepare for the coming of  
Jesus by making straight all that is crooked:**

A voice cries out: "In the wilderness prepare the way of the Lord,  
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

**Then the glory of the Lord shall be revealed,  
and all people shall see it together,  
for the mouth of the Lord has spoken."**

Let us prepare for Jesus, the Christ,  
who is anointed by God to bring good news to the oppressed,  
to bind up the broken-hearted,  
to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners.

**For as a garden causes seeds to grow,  
so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise  
to spring up before all the nations.**

—based on Isaiah 40:3, 5; 61:1, 11, NRSV

**\*Advent Carol: No. 127 – Verses 1 & 5**

***Thou Didst Leave Thy Throne***

**Old Testament**

**Zephaniah 3:14-20**

<sup>14</sup> Sing aloud, O daughter of Zion;  
shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart,  
O daughter of Jerusalem!

<sup>15</sup> The LORD has taken away the judgments against you;  
he has cleared away your enemies.

The King of Israel, the LORD, is in your midst;  
you shall never again fear evil.

<sup>16</sup> On that day it shall be said to Jerusalem:

"Fear not, O Zion; let not your hands grow weak.

<sup>17</sup> The LORD your God is in your midst,  
a mighty one who will save;

he will rejoice over you with gladness;  
he will quiet you by his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing.

<sup>18</sup> I will gather those of you who mourn for the festival,  
so that you will no longer suffer reproach.

<sup>19</sup> Behold, at that time I will deal with all your oppressors.

And I will save the lame and gather the outcast,  
and I will change their shame into praise  
and renown in all the earth.

<sup>20</sup> At that time I will bring you in,  
at the time when I gather you together;  
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. <sup>1</sup>

**Canticle**

***First Song of Isaiah – Isaiah 12:2-6***

**\*Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ**

**St. Luke 3:7-18**

<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 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."

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<sup>1</sup> *Revised Common Lectionary*. (2009). Bellingham, WA: Faithlife.

<sup>18</sup> So with many other exhortations he preached good news to the people. <sup>2</sup>

**\*Affirmation of Faith**

***The Apostles' Creed***

I believe in God, the Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.  
I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,  
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,  
born of the virgin Mary,  
suffered under Pontius Pilate,  
was crucified, died, and was buried.  
He descended into hades.  
On the third day he rose again;  
he ascended into heaven,  
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,  
and he will come to judge the quick and the dead.  
I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, and life everlasting. Amen.

**Ministry of Music**

**Trinity Bells**

***Advent Carol***

**Proclamation of God's Word**

**"PD"**

***Digging a Well***

**Ministry of Music**

**Trinity Bells**

***The Little Drummer Boy***

**Invitation to the Lord's Table**

**\*The Great Thanksgiving**

The Lord be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give Him thanks and praise.**

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<sup>2</sup> *Revised Common Lectionary*. (2009). Bellingham, WA: Faithlife.

It is indeed right. . .join their unending hymn:

*p* *mf* *f*

Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Ho - ly, Lord God of Sa - ba-oth; Heav-en and earth are

full, are full of the ma-jes-ty of Thy Glo - ry, Ho-san - na, ho-

*p*

san - na, ho-san-na in the high-est! Bless-ed is He that com-eth in the

*crescendo* *f*

name of the Lord, Ho-san - na, ho-san - na, ho-san - na in the high-est!

## Consecration and Epiclesis

Our Savior's Prayer [using debts and debtors]

The Sharing of the Bread and Cup

*Please wait to receive until directed by the pastor.*

## Thanksgiving

\*Christmas Carol: No. 125

*Joy to the World*

\*Dismissal and Blessing

\*Going Forth

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**Congregational Meeting Results** – At last Sunday’s congregational meeting the proposed budget for 2022 was adopted by the congregation and the ballot for the Consistory members was approved. We thank Larry Hay, Jenna Ogburn, Curt Shaulis, and Reon Engleka for their service to the church. New Consistory members will be installed on Sunday, January 9, 2022.

**Medical Debt Offering** – This past Lent Trinity participated in the endeavor of the Penn West Conference to join in an effort to retire medical debt for those whose lives are severely hampered by medical debt. A company purchases debt for pennies on the dollar and it is retired with a letter sent to those who receive such consideration stating your local United Church of Christ congregation has given you this gift. David Ackerman has informed the conference that the company that provides this service states that there is no medical debt that meets their requirements within 30 counties of the boundaries of the Conference. There are two options – allow the national UCC to use the gift to retire medical debt in another region or ask that the gift be returned. Pastor is now seeking information should the gift be returned how we might assist people through our local institutions as there are surely people who are burdened with significant medical debt. Consistory will take up this matter on Monday evening. If you gave a gift, Consistory members would like to know your feeling about having the gift returned to be used locally or left with the national UCC.

**Meals on Wheels** acknowledges with sincere appreciation your gift of \$100. Donations are used to provide home delivered meals for those who cannot do so for themselves.

### **In December at Trinity and in the Area**

***Advent-Christmas Holy Communion*** on Sunday, December 12 with special music of the Trinity Bells.

***The Berlin Brethren “Handbell Choir & Just Brass”*** will present a concert of Christmas Music on Sunday, December 19<sup>th</sup> at 2 p.m.

***Christmas Eve – December 24<sup>th</sup>***

***5 p.m. Family Christmas Eve – Trinity***

***7 p.m. Christmas Communion & Candles – Zion, Meyersdale***

***11 p.m. Carols and Candles – Trinity***

### **The Saints In Action**

TODAY – *The Third Sunday of Advent*

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Wednesday

6:30 p.m. Trinity Bells Rehearsal

Next Sunday – *December 19 – Fourth Sunday of Advent*

9:00 a.m. Worship

10:10 a.m. Sunday School



## Giving From 12/05/21

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
<b>General</b>	\$2981.00	\$2434.93	\$546.07
<b>Ben</b>	\$340.00	\$213.46	\$126.54
<b>Maint</b>	\$350.00	\$163.46	\$186.54
<b>Mem</b>			
<b>Total</b>	\$3671.00	\$2811.85	\$859.15

Benevolence includes Food Pantry of \$15.00 and Adopt a Family (Secret Santa) of \$115.00

**Worship Attendance: 82**  
**Sunday School: 10**



### Those Remembered in prayer:

God's guidance and protection for Armed Forces.

### **Shut Ins:**

Lew & Barb Berkley, Roy Bucher, Helen Diest, Mary Forespring, Janet Gindlesperger, Cynthia Kelly, Lois Krause, Deb Luteri, Lois Saylor.

### **Healing Concerns:**

Sally Altfather, Mark Amyot, Donnie Baxter, Carol Boyer, Abigayle Broadwater, Jim Coughenour, Pam Crooks, Dana Dawson, Dawn Gindlesperger, Andrea Shaulis Harris, Barry Landis, Larry McCullen, Bonnie Murphy, Nancy Schrock, Avis Specht, Dirkje Stellingwerf, Kelly Tharp, Robin Walker, Harry and Jane Watkins, Heather Weighley, Nancy Weighley, Karen Will, Kimberly Kay Roos Zimmerman

## **Where You May Find. . .**

**The Nursery:** *is on the lower level for children and their parent. A big screen TV is mounted in the room so that you may watch the service.*

## **At the Sanctuary Entrances. . .**

Large Print Bulletins

Recycling Boxes for Bulletins

Hearing Amplifiers

*These Days* – Devotional

## **Assisting in Worship**

**Sound:** Tyler Gindlesperger, Chris King

**Acolyte:** Cora Wright

***The Flowers on the altar*** in loving memory of Edna Mae Chappie (Grandma Mae) by Dave, Missy, Matthew & Kaitlyn Miller

## ***The Whole Congregation in Ministry and Assisted by***

*Pastor: Rev'd Dr. David A. Williams*

*Church Secretary: Pam Bush*

*Financial Secretary: Renee Gindlesperger*

*Chancel Choir Director Emeritus: Linda Gallick*

*Handbells: Jeanne Hillegas*

## ***Church Office Hours – Tuesday through Thursday***

***9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.***

Church Office Phone: 814-267-3234

Snail Mail: PO Box 86, Berlin, PA 15530

Email: [berlinucc@yahoo.com](mailto:berlinucc@yahoo.com)

Website: [www.berlinucc.org](http://www.berlinucc.org)

## **Pastor's Contact Information**

**Cell Phone: 814-241-3919**

**E-Mail: [uccvicar@gmail.com](mailto:uccvicar@gmail.com)**

603 Fletcher Street, Berlin, PA 15530

# Hail to the Lord's Anointed

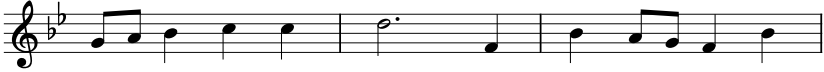
James Montgomery Paraphrase of Psalm 72

W. H. Monk



Hail to the Lord's A - anoint - ed, great  
He comes with suc - cor speed - y to  
He shall come down like show - ers up -  
To him shall prayer un - ceas - ing, and

3



Da - vid's great - er Son! Hail in the time ap -  
those who suf - fer wrong; to help the poor and  
on the fruit - ful earth; love, joy, and hope, like  
dai - ly vows as - cend; his king - dom still in -

6



point - ed, his reign on earth be - gun! He  
need - y, and bid the weak be strong; to  
flow - ers, spring in his path to birth. Be -  
creas - ing, a king - dom with - out end. The

9



comes to break op - pres - sion, to set the cap - tive  
give them songs for sigh - ing, their dark - ness turn to  
fore Him, on the moun - tains, shall peace, the her - ald,  
tide of time shall nev - er his cov - e - nant re -

12



free; to take a - way trans - gres - sions, and  
light, whose souls, con - demned and dy - ing, and  
go, and righ - teous - ness, in foun - tains, from  
move; his name shall stand for - ev - er; that

15



rule in eq - ui - ty.  
pre - cious in his sight.  
hill to val - ley flow.  
name to us is love.

In Public Domain

# Surely It Is God Who Saves Me

Scripture **The First Song of Isaiah** Jack Noble White



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