



Third Sunday in
Advent

YEAR C



The Church of Scotland

WELCOME



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The Church of Scotland

Third Sunday in Advent

Auditoire de Calvin, December 15 2024

Prelude *“Nun Komm Der Heiden Heiland”*

Johann Sebastian Bach (1685–1750)

Introit *“All glory be to God on high”*

Nicolaus Decius (1485-1541)

Welcome

Call to Worship:

Zion, cry out for joy: raise the shout of triumph,
Israel: be glad, rejoice with all your heart,
daughter of Jerusalem...the Lord is among you
as King! *(Zephaniah 3.14-15)*

Lighting of the third Advent candle

The third candle, to remind us of John the Baptist and all God’s messengers who prepare the way for the Saviour’s coming.

“The light shines on in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it. There was a man sent from God whose name was John. He came to bear witness to the light, that all might believe through him.”

Almighty God, give your people grace to enter on the way of salvation. As they listen to the voice of John, the Lord’s herald, bring them safely to Jesus whom John foretold. Amen.

Advent candle song

*The holly and the ivy
Are dancing in a ring
Round the berry bright red candles
And the white and shining king.*

And *one* is for God’s people
In every age and day
We are watching for his coming
We believe and we obey.

And *two* is for the prophets
And for the light they bring
They are candles in the darkness
All alight for Christ the king.

And *three* for John the Baptist
He calls on us to sing:

“O prepare the way for Jesus Christ,
He is coming, Christ the King.”

CH4 334 *On Jordan's bank*

Prayer and Lord's Prayer

All age talk

CH4 279 *Make way, make way*

Gospel *Luke 3:7-18*

One more powerful is coming

John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Therefore, bear fruits worthy of repentance, and 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. Even now the axe is lying at the root of the trees; therefore, every tree that does not bear good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.”

And the crowds asked him, “What, then, should we do?” In reply he said to them, “Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none, and whoever has food must do likewise.” Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, “Teacher, what should we do?” He said to them, “Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you.” 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.”

As the people were filled with expectation and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, 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 strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. 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.”

So with many other exhortations he proclaimed the good news to the people.

Offering

Music “Das Alte Jahr Vergangen Ist”

Johann Sebastian Bach

CH4 807 (as the offering is brought forward)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Prayer of dedication

We are here to praise you,
lift our hearts and sing.
We are here to bring you
the best that we can bring.
And it is our love
Rising from our hearts:
everything within us cries,
“Abba, Father”.
Help us now to give you
pleasure and delight,
Heart and mind and will that say,
“I love you, Lord.”

Amen.

CH4 802 *We are here to praise you.*

Sermon

CH4 291 *When out of poverty is born*

Prayers for others

CH4 283 *The voice of God goes out to all the world*

Blessing

CH4 786 *May the peace of God go with us*
Benediction and threefold Amen

Postlude *Grand Plein Jeu improvise*



*Join us upstairs after the service
for refreshments
in the Salle Théodore de Bèze!*

*If you are a visitor,
please sign the visitors' book
at the back of the church.*

Welcoming elder: Christine Buhler
Ushers: Freda Craeye, Jenny Rietbergen
Reader: Freda Craeye
Organist: Gilles Martinet
Choir: Páraic Réamonn



Tuesday December 24

Christmas Eve service, 23h15, on *Zoom* only

Wednesday December 25

Christmas Day service, 11h



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