



Third Sunday of Advent December 14, 2025

Please silence your cell phone

Prelude

O For a Thousand Tongues to Sing
Carl Glaser
Suk Choi, Organist

Welcome

Stephanie Muck

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle

Mike, Stacy, & Sydney Malone

Call to Worship

Leader: The advent of Christ brings the love of God's presence into our midst!

People: *We sing praises to God for the salvation Christ brings to us!*

Leader: Because of Christ, the weak are strengthened, the fearful are encouraged, and the unrighteous are redeemed!

People: *Love came down when God came down to us. God has come to us in Christ to walk with us in the paths of righteousness!*

All: *As we continue our preparations for Christmas, may our celebrations renew our faith and fill us with God's love. Amen.*

Opening Prayer

Hymns of Praise
(please stand if able)

Joy to the World (Unspeakable Joy)
Tomlin, Cash, Handel, Watts, & Gilder
Lee Lee Truong-Sawicki, Worship Leader
Sho Fujieda, Drums

*Joy to the world! the Lord is come;
Let earth receive her King.
Let ev'ry heart prepare Him room,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.*

*Joy to the world! the Savior reigns;
Let all their songs employ.
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

*Joy, unspeakable joy!
An overflowing well;
No tongue can tell!
Joy, unspeakable joy!
It rises in my soul,
Never lets me go!*

*He rules the world with truth and grace
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.*

*Joy, unspeakable joy!
An overflowing well;
No tongue can tell!
Joy, unspeakable joy!
It rises in my soul,
Never lets me go!*

*We worship the God who was.
We worship the God who is.
We worship the God who evermore will be.*

*He opened the prison doors.
He parted the raging sea.
My God He holds the victory, yeah.*

*There's joy in the house of the Lord.
There's joy in the house of the Lord today.
And we won't be quiet.
We shout out Your praise.*

*There's joy in the house of the Lord.
Our God is surely in this place.
And we won't be quiet.
We shout out Your praise.
We shout out Your praise.*

*We sing to the God who heals.
We sing to the God who saves.
We sing to the God who always makes a way.*

*'Cause He hung up on that cross.
Then He rose up from that grave.
My God's still rolling stones away.*

Prayer of Confession

Declaration of Forgiveness

House of the Lord
Phil Wickham and Jonathan Smith

*There's joy in the house of the Lord.
There's joy in the house of the Lord today.
And we won't be quiet.
We shout out Your praise.*

*There's joy in the house of the Lord.
Our God is surely in this place.
And we won't be quiet.
We shout out Your praise.*

*We were the beggars.
Now we're royalty.
We were the prisoners.
Now we're running free.*

*We are forgiven, accepted,
Redeemed by His grace.
Let the house of the Lord sing praise.*

*There's joy in the house of the Lord.
There's joy in the house of the Lord today.
And we won't be quiet.
We shout out Your praise.*

*There's joy in the house of the Lord.
Our God is surely in this place.
And we won't be quiet.
We shout out Your praise.
We shout out Your praise.*

Susie Hess

Response of Thanksgiving
(please stand if able)

Gloria Patri

*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, world without end.
Amen. Amen.*

Passing of the Joy & Peace of Christ

Anthem

Gaudeamus Hodie (Let Us Rejoice Today)
Donald More
LNPC Chancel Choir

Gadeamus, gaudeamus, gaudeamus hodie;
Gadeamus, gaudeamus, gaudeamus hodie.

Singing joyfully, singing gratefully,
Singing praises this holy day.
Singing joyfully, singing gratefully,
Gadeamus hodie.

Gadeamus, (gaudeamus), gaudeamus hodie;
Gadeamus, (gaudeamus), gaudeamus hodie.

Singing joyfully, singing gratefully,
Singing praises this holy day.
Singing joyfully, singing gratefully,
Gadeamus hodie.

Gadeamus, (gaudeamus), gaudeamus hodie;
Gadeamus, (gaudeamus), gaudeamus hodie.

Singing joyfully, singing gratefully,
Singing praises this holy day.
Singing joyfully, singing gratefully,
Gadeamus hodie.

Gadeamus hodie.
Gadeamus, gaudeamus, gaudeamus hodie.

Recognition of Children

First Scripture Reading

Luke 1: 57 - 66
Maddox Fitzpatrick
Pew Bible pp. 57 - 58

⁵⁷ Now the time came for Elizabeth to give birth, and she bore a son. ⁵⁸ Her neighbors and relatives heard that the Lord had shown his great mercy to her, and they rejoiced with her. ⁵⁹ On the eighth day they came to circumcise the child, and they were going to name him Zechariah after his father. ⁶⁰ But his mother said, "No; he is to be called John." ⁶¹ They said to her, "None of your relatives has this name." ⁶² Then they began motioning to his father to find out what name he wanted to give him. ⁶³ He asked for a writing tablet and wrote, "His name is John." And all of them were amazed. ⁶⁴ Immediately his mouth was opened and his tongue freed, and he began to speak, praising God. ⁶⁵ Fear came over all their neighbors, and all these things were talked about throughout the entire hill country of Judea. ⁶⁶ All who heard them pondered them and said, "What then will this child become?" For, indeed, the hand of the Lord was with him.

Hymn of Preparation
(please stand if able)

Blessed Be the God of Israel
Carl P. Daw, Jr.
(vv. 1, 3)

*Blessed be the God of Israel,
Who comes to set us free
And raises up new hope for us:
A Branch from David's tree.*

*My child, as prophet of the Lord,
You will prepare the way,
To tell God's people they are saved
From sin's eternal sway.*

*So have the prophets long declared
That with a mighty arm
God would turn back our enemies
And all who wish us harm.*

*Then shall God's mercy from on high
Shine forth and never cease
To drive away the gloom of death
And lead us into peace.*

Second Scripture Readings

Luke 1: 67 - 80
Pastor Jim Szeyller
Pew Bible p. 58

⁶⁷ Then his father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke this prophecy:
⁶⁸ "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and re-

deemed them. ⁶⁹ He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his servant David, ⁷⁰ as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old, ⁷¹ that we would be saved from our enemies and from the hand of all who hate us. ⁷² Thus he has shown the mercy promised to our ancestors, and has remembered his holy covenant, ⁷³ the oath that he swore to our ancestor Abraham, to grant us ⁷⁴ that we, being rescued from the hands of our enemies, might serve him without fear, ⁷⁵ in holiness and righteousness before him all our days. ⁷⁶ And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High; for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, ⁷⁷ to give knowledge of salvation to his people by the forgiveness of their sins. ⁷⁸ By the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, ⁷⁹ to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace." ⁸⁰ The child grew and became strong in spirit, and he was in the wilderness until the day he appeared publicly to Israel.

Sermon

Loving - Incarnation

Time of Reflection

Blessing of Our Tithes & Offerings

Offertory

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus
Welsey, Sooter, Andrews, & Prichard

Come, Thou long expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free.
From our fears and sins release us.
Let us find our rest in Thee.

Israel's strength and consolation,
Hope of all the earth Thou art.
Dear desire of ev'ry nation,
Joy of ev'ry longing heart.

You draw the hearts of shepherds,
You draw the hearts of kings.
Even as a baby,
You were changing ev'rything.

You called me to Your kingdom
Before Your lips could speak,
And even as a baby,
You were reaching out for me.

And now we are awaiting
The day of Your return
When ev'ry eye will see You
As heaven comes to earth.

Until the sky is opened,
Until the trumpet sounds,
The bride is getting ready,
The Church is singing out.

Come, Thou long expected Jesus,
Born to set Thy people free.
From our fears and sins release us.
Let us find our rest in Thee.
Come, Thou long expected King.

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

The Invitation (Bread is gluten-free.)

The Prayer of Consecration

The Celebration of Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord’s Prayer

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory, forever. Amen.

Hymn of Response
(please stand if able)

Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Skies
Charles Wesley
#562 (vv. 1, 3)

Postlude

Good Christian Friends, Rejoice
Arr. by Mary McDonald

*Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only Light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise,
Triumph over shades of night:
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Daystar, in my heart appear!*

*Visit then this soul of mine,
Pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
Fill me, Radiancy divine,
Scatter all my unbelief:
More and more yourself display,
Shining to the perfect day!*

Charge and Benediction
(please remain standing)

Today’s Chancel flowers are given by Tom and Carol Stocksdales
in gratitude and appreciation for those whose dedication and hard work
make the Christmas Worship Festival possible.

Chorale Response

Prayer for the Road

*May we be blessed as we go on our way.
May we be kept in safety and love.
May grace and compassion find their way to every soul,
May this be our blessing Amen.
Amen, Amen.
May this be our blessing, Amen.
Amen, Amen.
May this be our blessing, Amen.*

(In consideration of our livestream, please be seated until after the Postlude is over before exiting the sanctuary. Thank you.)

Music used by permission CCLI 504316

SERMON NOTES



Prayer Concerns

LNPC Members

Steve Foster
Jody Fristoe-Schnitzer
Mary Gay
Ellen Hampsten
C.M. Hourigan
Linda Klein
Kathleen Lechner
Minton Paul
Allen Renning
Kathleen Roebuck
Tasha Schwarz
Gary Wright

Peace & Comfort

Family of Marvel Anderson
Family of Suzanne Chapman
Jaime & Lani Colley and Family
(Jaime's Father)
Fred and Janice Ehlers &
Family (Fred's Mother & Friend)
The Fair Family (Angela's Aunt)
Fitzpatrick Family (Jill's Father)
Eileen Green (Brother)
Ellen Hampsten (Nephew)

Nora and Mark Imfeld & Family
(Nora's Father)
Sharon and Greg Johnson &
Family (Sharon's Brother, Bob)
Lange Family (Mindy)
Moore Family & John Flannery
(Mike Moore)
Family of Louanna Robeson

LNPC STAFF

Senior Pastor, Head of Staff

Rev. James Szeyller
pastorjim@lnpc.org

Director of Music

Lee Lee Truong-Sawicki
leelee@lnpc.org

Director of Technology: Youth Director

Ben Roebuck
ben@lnpc.org

Children's Ministry

Becky Szeyller
becky@lnpc.org

Organist

Suk Choi

Office Manager

Stephanie Muck
office@lnpc.org

Laguna Niguel Presbyterian C H U R C H



Sunday, December 14, 2025
Announcements

Children bathroom independent through 5th Grade*

Worship is attended as a family until the Recognition of Children, when our young children are excused to go with their teachers to the Sunday School classroom located in the hallway off the Narthex.

**If you are in need of nursery space during the service, you are invited to use the Quiet Room, equipped with livestream, located across from the Sunday School Room.*



30071 Ivy Glenn Drive, Laguna Niguel, CA 92677
949.249.1218 office@lnpc.org www.lnpc.org

Noteworthy News

- ♦ **Advent Study:** Join Pastor Jim on Wednesday night, December 17th, at 7:00 pm in Gard A, for *A Weary World Rejoices*. Pause and rediscover the deep hope of Advent as we reflect on the promise of Christ’s coming and the joy He brings to a weary world.
- ♦ **Memorial Service for Suzanne Chapman:** Thursday, December 18th, at 10:00 am in the Sanctuary. A reception in Gard Hall immediately follows the service. This service will be livestreamed.
- ♦ **Advent Postcards:** Available in the pews for you to take and give to neighbors, friends, and family to extend an invitation to our Christmas season offerings.
- ♦ **Poinsettia Dedications:** It is not too late to dedicate a poinsettia. Use the enclosed envelope for your donation of \$16.00 per poinsettia. Be sure to complete the front with your dedication information and drop it in the baskets located in the Narthex. You are invited to take your poinsettia with you after the 7:00 pm Christmas Eve Communion service.
- ♦ **Service of Lessons & Carols:** Sunday, December 21st, 10:00 am, in the Sanctuary. Invite your family, friends, and neighbors to this beloved service of Scripture Readings and Christmas Carols that retells the story of Jesus’ birth.
- ♦ **Join Us for Christmas Eve Services, Wednesday, December 24th:**
 - ~ Family Service, 4:00 pm, in the Sanctuary
 - ~ Communion Service, 7:00 pm, in the Sanctuary

THIS WEEK at LNPC

December 14		SUNDAY
10:00 am	Communion Sunday	Sanctuary / Livestream
11:30 am	Congregational Life	Conference Room
4:00 pm	<i>Christmas Worship Festival</i>	<i>Sanctuary</i>

December 15		MONDAY
7:00 am	AA Men’s	Gard B
10:30 am	AA Women’s	Gard B
1:30 pm	Staff Meeting	Conference Room
6:00 pm	Session	Work Room
8:00 pm	AA Mixed	Gard B

December 16		TUESDAY
9:30 am	Al-Anon Mixed	Gard B

December 17		WEDNESDAY
6:00 pm	AA Mixed	Gard B
6:00 pm	PNC	Conference Room
7:00 pm	A Weary World Rejoices	Gard A

December 18		THURSDAY
10:00 am	Memorial Service	Sanctuary
11:30 am	FAM Volunteer Lunch	Parking Lot
1:00 pm	FAM Food Distribution	Parking Lot
4:00 pm	Holy Yoga Chair	Gard C
5:00 pm	Holy yoga	Gard C
6:30 pm	Choir Rehearsal	Sanctuary

December 19		FRIDAY
7:00 am	AA Men’s	Gard B
10:30 am	AA Women’s	Gard C
1:00 pm	Canasta	Gard A

December 20		SATURDAY
9:00 am	Christmas Eve Rehearsal	Sanctuary

1:00 pm	Music with Miss Amy	Sanctuary
December 21		SUNDAY
10:00 am	Sunday Worship	Sanctuary / Livestream

11:15 am	Faithful Conversations	Sanctuary
3:00 pm	Middle School	The Garage
4:00 pm	High School	The Garage
4:00 pm	The Journey	Gard A

Prayer Concerns

Family & Friends (Church Contact)

Amy Bolles (Lechner)	Erik McMahon (Rihovsky)
Ginny Bowman (Heath)	Dave Moore (Borg)
Mary Brown (Troester)	Bobby Pilkerton (LeBlanc)
John Carruth (Ehlers)	George Rihovsky
Annie Coleman (Coleman)	Robert Ruiz, Jr. (Pasco)
Robyn Fong (Ehlers)	David Tuma (Troester)
Erica Lane Kirk and Children (M. Fair)	Lindsey Yanez (Nunnikhoven)

(*New addition - Names will appear for 3 months unless otherwise specified by those who submit the prayer request.)

To submit a prayer request or notify us that one can be removed: office@lnpc.org or 949.249.1218