



Encourage one another
**INDEPENDENCE
PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**

www.ipcusa.org - 6624 Public Square - (216) 524-6307 - ipcusaorg@gmail.com

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 12, 2021 (*Joy*)



C.J. Briggs, Music Director
Julie Lehmann, Secretary

Robert Scott, Liturgist
Rev. David B. Wigger, Pastor

*An account of the genealogy of Jesus the Messiah...
... David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah. ~ Matthew 1*

~ **GATHERING** ~

GATHERING MUSIC

POURING OF THE BAPTISMAL WATERS

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (*Luke 1:46-47*)

My soul magnifies the Lord; **my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.**

PRELUDE

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES

John and Nancy Bair

“Rejoice in the Lord always; **again, I say, Rejoice!**”

The world says, “Worry,” **and again we say, “Rejoice!”**

The news says, “Fear,” **and again we say, “Rejoice!”**

The world says, “Be happy,” **and the church says, “Be faithful,”**

As we light our third Advent candle, **we pray for hope, peace, and joy.**

Come now, O Child of Mary, **Come now, O Child of Joy.**

Let us walk in the light of the Holy One.

RESPONSE

MY SOUL IN STILLNESS WAITS

GTG #89

By Marty Haugen

Refrain / Verse 3

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad,

the desert shall rejoice and blossom;

like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly,

and rejoice with joy and singing.

In joy, come let us worship God.

HYMN

OPEN NOW THY GATES OF BEAUTY

GTG #403

Text by Benjamin Schmolck; Music by Joachim Neander (UNSER HERRSCHER)

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*continued on next page*)

Merciful God, we confess that, in the midst of your glorious creation, we have neglected our role in its care. We ignore the cries of the

~ *RESPONDING TO THE WORD* ~

***AFFIRMATION OF FAITH** (*From the Second Helvetic Confession*)

What is the Gospel properly speaking?

And although our fathers had the Gospel in this way in the writings of the prophets by which they attained salvation in Christ through faith, yet the Gospel is properly called glad and joyous news, in which, first by John the Baptist, then by Christ the Lord himself, and afterwards by the apostles and their successors, is preached to us in the world that God has now performed what was promised from the beginning of the world, and has sent, nay more, has given us the only Son and in him reconciliation with the Father, the remission of sins, all fulness and everlasting life.

***INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

***RESPONSE** GLORY, GLORY, GLORY GTG #584

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

~ *SENDING* ~

HYMN MY SOUL CRIES OUT WITH A JOYFUL SHOUT GTG #100
Irish Melody; arr and text by Rory Cooney (STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Please stay for the Congregational Meeting following worship.

Pieces of today's liturgy are from: *Book of Common Worship* (PCUSA);
Presbyterian Outlook, Teri Ott; *What My Grandmothers Taught Me* by Merryl Blair
Cover Image: *Bathsheba*, Cody F. Miller from *What My Grandmothers Taught Me*