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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

hurting and the lonely, those on the margins and those who are oppressed. We focus on our own desires, while forgetting the needs of our neighbors. We have not prepared a way for the Lord, through either our words or our deeds, neither through our actions nor our thoughts. Grant us your mercy in forgiveness; and lead us to act with compassion and justice, guided by your glorious light.

*RESPONSE

O COME, O COME EMMANUEL

GTG #88

French Antiphon

Refrain / Verse 3

*ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Surely God is our salvation!

We will trust in the Lord's goodness and will not be afraid.

Know that you are forgiven and be at peace.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you. And also with you.

RESPONSE

SONG OF HOPE

GTG #765

Argentine folk melody

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

May God be with you there. May God be with you here.

~ THE WORD ~

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

GRANDMOTHERS OF ADVENT: BATHSHEBA

Barb Csuti

... David was the father of Solomon by the wife of Uriah ...

HEBREW BIBLE

2 SAMUEL 11-12

NRSV (select verses)

GOSPEL LESSON

LUKE 3:7-18

NRSV

Hear what the Holy Spirit is telling God's people. Thanks be to God.

SERMON

GRANDMOTHER OF JOY

Rev. Wigger

~ 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*