



Nurture Good News

INDEPENDENCE PRESBYTERIAN

THE OLD STONE CHURCH OF INDEPENDENCE

I am bringing you Good News of great joy for all the people.



THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ JOY

December 15, 2024



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

John Bair, Liturgist
Rev. David B. Wigger, Pastor

My Soul glorifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior, who has been mindful of the humble state of this servant. From now on all generations will call me blessed, for the Mighty One has done great things for me—holy is God's name. ~ Mary

~ *GATHERING TOGETHER* ~

PRELUDE

ADVENT BLESSING (*Luke 2:10, Philippians 1:7, Kate Bowler*)

For see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all people.
For all of us share in God’s grace.

CAROL #102..... SAVIOR OF THE NATIONS, COME
Ambrose of Milan (*Verses 1, 4*)

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLES Carolyn and Tom Hocutt

We light this candle as a sign of the coming light of Christ.

As the Holy One has promised, in days to come:

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, let us walk in the light of the Holy One.

LESSON MICAH 5:2-5

CAROL #88..... O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL
Latin prose (*Verses 1-4*)

LESSON THE BOY, THE MOLE, THE FOX AND THE HORSE

INTERLUDE..... LIVELY IN STRICT TIME

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Magnificent God, it is easy to rejoice at the wilderness bursting into bloom and the hungry being filled with good things. We may not want the powerful to be brought down or the rich to be sent away empty. We know that sometimes, we are the powerful. Sometimes, we are the rich. Sometimes we are the ones with privilege, ignoring and harming those you would lift up. Forgive us, humble us, and refocus us, that we may follow your way of life and truth. Amen. [*Time of Silent Confession*]

***RESPONSE**

O LORD, HAVE MERCY

GTG #578

Guarani melody

ORÉ PORIAJÚ VEREKÓ

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON** *(from Mary's Magnificat, Luke 1)*

Friends, believe the good news: **in Jesus Christ we are forgiven.**

***PASSING OF THE PEACE** *(from Rev. Bruce Reyes-Chow)*

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

SPREAD THE WORD

OUTREACH TEAM

~ SHARING IN THE GOSPEL ~

LESSON..... LUKE 1:26-38

CAROL #129..... LO, HOW A ROSE E'ER BLOOMING
German carol (ES IST EIN' ROS')

LESSON..... LUKE 1:39-45

INTERLUDE MARY WAS THE QUEEN OF GALILEE
The Sounding Joy: Elizabeth Mitchell, Gail Ann Dorsey, Joan Osborne

HOMILY..... NURTURE JOY

~ TENDING THE GOOD NEWS ~

***FOR JOY** *(from Have a Beautiful, Terrible Advent)*

God, we are feeling the spark of anticipation.

We are beginning to understand the truth:

Joy is our natural habitat, our real home.

... You are going to have to bring a little heaven down closer to us. And show us more of this reality we sense but can't yet quite comprehend: **that hope fulfilled will become our foundation, love our shelter, and joy the air we breathe.**

Blessed are we who say, "Come Lord Jesus, and come soon.

You are filling our hearts to overflowing."

***INVITATION TO THE OFFERING**

Offerings intended for the Christmas Crisis fund should be designated as such.

***RESPONSE**

GLORIA A DIOS
Peruvian melody

GTG #585
MACHU-PICHU

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

~ GOING FORTH TO NURTURE ~

LESSON.....LUKE 1:46-55

***CAROL #99..... My Soul Gives Glory to My God (Song of Mary)**
Miriam Therese Winter (MORNING SONG)

***BENEDICTION** *(from Luke 2)*

I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people.

**They made known what had been told them,
and all who heard it were amazed.**

POSTLUDE LINUS AND LUCY
BY VINCE GUARALDI



Next Week: Fourth Sunday of Advent (Pop-up Pageant: Rehearsal 9:30am)

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