



DRAW NEAR 3. Joy - The Third Sunday of Advent

Larger Size Bulletin and Announcements available – please ask an usher
The Prelude is time for prayer and quiet as we prepare to worship God

PRELUDE “O Come. O Come, Emmanuel” 13th Cent. Plainsong

WELCOME, INTRODUCTION and CHURCH NEWS Jim Simpson

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING Sherry Scruggs and Nancy Goodson

INTROIT HYMN # 106 v2 Prepare the Way, O Zion

*He brings God’s rule, O Zion; he comes from heaven above.
His rule is peace and freedom, and justice, truth, and love.
Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.
O blest is Christ who came in God’s most holy name.*

WORDS FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: Joy

Unison Prayer (when invited...)

**May this candle remind us that God shares joy with the earth
and all creation in the gift of Christ our Savior.
May the light of this candle help us all to draw near to God,
for in the light of this candle, we rejoice in all God’s loving promises. Amen**

* **HYMN # 132** “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”

CALL TO CONFESSION and PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*silent prayer, then spoken*)

**Loving God, You have told us what we should do:
live humbly, give generously, and be rich in compassion.
Even still, O God, we fall back into our selfish ways.
We have been claimed in the waters of baptism,
but we do not live as people redeemed.
We have been washed in waters of grace,
but we do not trust the depth of your love.
Forgive us, God of mercy.
Heal us, guide us, and call us to try again. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SONG OF ASSURANCE Hymn # 112 v 3 On Christmas Night All Christians Sing

*When sin departs before his grace, then life and health come in its place;
When sin departs before his grace, then life and health come in its place;
Heaven and earth with joy may sing, all for to see the newborn King.*

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 12:2-6 (p. 603/p. 785) Sherry Scruggs

The word of the Lord. **Thanks be to God.**

THE OFFERING OF THE PEOPLE

OFFERING HYMN # 109 “Blest Be the God of Israel”

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Nancy Goodson

In this act of worship, we embrace Your presence again, O God.

In this moment of prayer, we proclaim again Your purpose for the world, O Savior.

In this moment of giving we hear Your call again, Spirit of Truth.

**Use us, all that we have and all that we are, to touch the world
with your hope, peace, joy and love.**

In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

“The Glory of Christmas”

Lloyd Larsen

The Glory of Christmas (Come and Worship the Newborn King)

Congregation: Angels we have heard on high Sweetly singing o’er the plains
And the mountains in reply, echo back their joyous strains
Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!

Keep Your Lamps Trimmed and Burning

Prepare the Way of the Lord

Child of Promise, Child of Love

Soprano Soloist - Amy McChesney

Jesus is Born Tonight

Congregation: Hark, the herald angels sing, “Glory to the newborn King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!”
Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies;
With the angelic host proclaim, “Christ is born in Bethlehem!”
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the new born King!”

Hail the heaven born Prince of Peace! Hail the Son of Righteousness!
Light and life to all he brings, risen with healing in His wings.
Mild He lays His glory by, born that we no more may die,
Born to raise us from the earth, born to give us second birth.
Hark! the herald angels sing, “Glory to the new born King!”

Christ is Born This Holy Night

Guide Us to the Perfect Light

