



Zion Goshert's United Church of Christ
Third Sunday of Advent Worship Sunday, December 11, 2022

Ministers: All the Faithful Members

Preacher: Rev. Joel Risser

1588 Mount Zion Road, Lebanon, PA 17046 717-865-3286 www.ziongosherts.org

Please stand if you are able. Congregation, please speak the words in **bold.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME (Ringing of the Bell)

*OPENING HYMN

Angels, We Have Heard On High

Hymnal #310

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The joy of the season is upon us. The time is almost here.

People: We have come to praise the Lord!

L: We are here to sing praises to God, the Holy One in whom we place our trust.

P: God opens our eyes and lifts us up.

L: Let us praise God

P: who reigns forever.

INVOCATION

Let us pray: We gather, O God, in this worship space mindful of your presence. We are here to rejoice as we wait to see your glory. Help us proclaim the joy you promise In this hour of worship we ask that you bless us through the inspiration of your Holy Spirit and through the stories of Christ's ministry among us. Amen

THE LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

CALL TO CONFESSION

Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, who comes to wake us from sleep, who leads us into the light of grace.

Here we are, Most Patient God, in the third week of our Advent journey. You alone know how that journey is going. Did we, at the beginning of the season promise to make this Advent different?

Did we promise in our heart of hearts to prepare ourselves spiritually to receive the gift of your Son?

Let us confess together

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

We confess, O God, that we, so easily, have given into the expectations of people and situations around us. We allowed the times of quiet we promised for you to slip away. Forgive us in our distractions Help us renew our preparations for your coming. We look forward to your promise to change things - To bring life, and strength and courage to us: eyes to see, ears to hear, and tongues to speak your word.

So we wait a little longer -

 Moving..... at..... a..... slower..... pace
and with a great deal more patience.

Continue to be with us, O Lord as we learn to wait with you.

We will continue in silence

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

Pastor: We come to you confessing what is on our hearts and minds.

Congregation: We do so trusting that you want to hear our petitions and that you have already forgiven what needs to be forgiven. We believe that our prayers will be answered in your time and in your almighty wisdom. Amen.

SCRIPTURE : Luke 1: 47-55

SERMON: Heartbeat of Justice

OFFERING - GOD'S WORD ON GIVING

The day of rejoicing is coming, the prophet Isaiah says, and we await it together; our gifts today in this season of waiting and hope help us to strengthen our hearts and to offer hope to the world as we look forward to that great day of everlasting joy.

Let us gather our gifts together and present them as an offering to God.

OFFERING HYMN *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* Hymnal #316

*OFFERTORY RESPONSE *Praise God from Whom All Blessing Flow*
Tune: *O Come, O Come Emmanuel*

The musical score is written on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It consists of four lines of music, each with guitar chords indicated above the notes. The lyrics are written below the notes.

Line 1: Chords: Em, G, C, D7, G, D, G, C, G. Lyrics: Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise God, all crea - tures

Line 2: Chords: Am, Bm7, Em, Am, Em, B7, Em, A7, D, Em. Lyrics: here _____ be - low. Praise God a - bove, ye heaven - ly host. Praise

Line 3: Chords: D, Bm, G, C, Am, D7, G, D, Em, Bm, G. Lyrics: Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Re - joice! Re - joice! Em -

Line 4: Chords: C, D7, Em, D, G, C, G, Am, Em, Bm, Em. Lyrics: man - u - el Shall come to thee, O Is - ra - el.

***OFFERTORY PRAYER**

Let us pray:

With these gifts, dear God, accept the praise and thanksgiving of our hearts, which rejoice in your goodness and love.

Let these gifts point to your presence in the world, and further your hope for the world through Jesus, Emmanuel, God-with-us. Amen.

PRAYERS of the people and pastoral prayer

Leader: Let us pray. **People: Have mercy, O God.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father Who is in heaven, hallowed be Your Name. Your kingdom come; Your 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.

Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.

For Yours is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

***HYMN**

Angels, From the Realms of Glory

Hymnal #320

BENEDICTION

Let us go forth with eyes to see and ears to hear and voices to proclaim:

In the work of justice: Christ!

In the practice of mercy: Christ!

In good news for the poor: Christ!

In the vision of peace: Christ!

Amen! Thanks be to God!

NOTES ON PARISH LIFE and THE POSTLUDE

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