

Order of Worship ~ Sunday, December 12, 2021
Third Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND GATHERING PRAYER

ANNOUNCEMENTS Worship Leader: Judy LaVergne

CALL TO WORSHIP (Adapted from Isaiah 12:2—3)

One: Surely God is our salvation;

All: We will trust, and will not be afraid,

One: for the LORD GOD is our strength and our might;

All: he has become our salvation.

One: With joy we will draw water from the wells of salvation.

All: And we will say in that day: Give thanks to the LORD, Amen!

OPENING HYMN

Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn #138

Words and Music: Marty Haugen (1983)

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*Awake! Awake and greet the new morn,
for angels herald its dawning.
sing out your joy, for soon He is born,
behold! the Child of our longing.*

*Come as a baby weak and poor,
to bring all hearts together,
He opens wide the heavenly door,
and lives now inside us forever.*

*In deepest night His coming shall be,
when all the world is despairing,
as morning light so quiet and free,
so warm and gentle and caring.*

*Then shall the silent join in song,
the tired shall leap in wonder,
the weak be raised above the strong,
and weapons be broken asunder.*

*Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night,
though dark the winter and cheerless,
the rising sun shall crown you with light,
be strong and loving and fearless;*

*Love be our song and love our prayer,
and love, our endless story,
may God fill every day we share,
and bring us at last into glory.*

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF JOY
Larry and Joyce Perdue

ADVENT HYMN

Joy to the World, #143

Words: Isaac Watts (1719)

Music: Attr. George Frederick Handel (1741); arr. Lowell Mason (1848)

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*Joy to the world, the Lord is come!
Let earth receive her King;
let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.*

*Joy to the world, the Savior reigns!
Let all their songs employ;
while fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.*

*He rules the world with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.*

UNISON PRAYER OF JOY Judy LaVergne

Loving and Merciful God, make me watchful and joyful as we await the coming of your Son, Christ our Lord, that when He comes and knocks, He will find me not sleeping in sin but awake and rejoicing in his praises; through Jesus Christ our Lord.

AMEN!

GLORIA PATRI

Glory Be to the Father #35

WORDS: Lesser Doxology (3rd-4th centuries)

MUSIC: Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

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*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.
Amen, Amen.*

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Shelli Fairbrother

CHILDREN'S HYMN

O Little Town of Bethlehem #144

WORDS: Phillips Brooks, 1868, alt.

MUSIC: Lewis H. Redner (1868)

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*O little town of Bethlehem, How still we see thee lie
Above thy deep and dreamless sleep, The silent stars go by
Yet in thy dark streets shineth, The everlasting Light
The hopes and fears of all the years, Are met in thee tonight*

SCRIPTURE

Reader, Suzie Bonta

Old Testament: Isaiah 12:2—6

Epistle Lesson: Philippians 4:4—7

THIS MORNINGS MESSAGE

Joyfully Present, Pastor Dave

HYMN

From Heaven Above #146

Words: Martin Luther (1535); tr. Lutheran Book of Worship, 1978

Music: Valentin Schumann's Geistliche Lieder, 1539

Tr. © 1978 Lutheran Book of Worship, used by permission of Augsburg Fortress

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*From heav'n above to earth I come
to bring good news to everyone;
glad tidings of great joy I bring,
to all the world and gladly sing:*

*To you this night is born a Child
of Mary, chosen virgin mild;
this new born Child of lowly birth
shall be the joy of all the earth.*

*This is the Christ, God's Son most high,
who hears your sad and bitter cry;
he will himself your Savior be
and from all sin will set you free.*

*Glory to God in highest heaven,
who unto us the Christ has given.
With angels sing the Savior's birth
a glad new year to all the earth!*

MORNING OFFERING

WE OFFER OURSELVES TO GOD

We joyfully offer ourselves for God's work, with our time, talent, and treasure.

DOXOLOGY:

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow #46

WORDS: Thomas Ken, 1674

MUSIC: Louis Bourgeois, 1551

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*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him, all creatures here below
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

Holy One, this Advent season, we thank You for teaching us how to give. These humble gifts are a token of all you provide us, and we joyfully place them before You. Lord, we ask that You instill wisdom into the leadership of our church on how to use these gifts and to help those in need and further your work. In Christ Jesus' name, Amen!

WE PAUSE TO REFLECT AND PRAY

Prayers of the People:

You are invited to offer prayers of concerns or joys.

Sharing our joys and concerns

Pastor: God is with you

All: And also, with you

Pastor: Let us pray

Pastoral Prayer

OUR LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; For thine is the Kingdom and the Power and the Glory, forever, Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE

Hear Our Prayer, O Lord #306

WORDS: Psalm 143:1

MUSIC: George Whelpton, 1897

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***Hear our Prayer, O Lord, Hear our prayer, O Lord.
Incline thine ear to us, And grant us thy peace. Amen.***

CLOSING HYMN

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee #2

Words: Henry van Dyke (1907, alt.)

Music: Ludwig van Beethoven (1824); arr. Edward Hodges (1864); desc. Susan Adams (1995)

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*Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
opening to the sun above.*

*Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive our fear and doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.*

*All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heaven reflect thy rays,
stars and angels sing around thee,
center of unbroken praise.*

*Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain
call us to rejoice in thee.*

*Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
well-spring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest!*

*Thou the Father, Christ our Brother,
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.*

*Mortals, join the happy chorus;
stars of morning, take your part;
love divine is reigning o'er us,
binding those of tender heart.*

*Ever singing, move we onward,
victors in the midst of strife,
joyful music lifts us sunward
in the triumph song of life.*

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

O Little Town of Bethlehem #144

WORDS: Phillips Brooks, 1868, alt.

MUSIC: Lewis H. Redner (1868)

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*O holy Child of Bethlehem, Descend to us, we pray;
Cast out our sin and enter in, Be born in us today.
We hear the Christmas angels The great glad tidings tell:
Oh, come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Immanuel!*

REFLECTIVE POSTLUDE

Do You Hear What I Hear?

Words & Music: Noel Regney & Gloria Shayne; Arr. Harry Simeone

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RECESSIONAL MUSIC

----- Scripture Reading -----

Isaiah 12:2-6 (NRSV)

2 Surely God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid,
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.
3 With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.
4 And you will say in that day:
Give thanks to the LORD,
call on his name;
make known his deeds among the nations;
proclaim that his name is exalted.
5 Sing praises to the LORD, for he has done gloriously;
let this be known in all the earth.
6 Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Philippians 4:4-7 (NRSV)

4 Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.
5 Let your gentleness be known to everyone. The Lord is near.
6 Do not worry about anything, but in everything by
prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests
be made known to God.
7 And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.