

# Order of Worship for the Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021, 8:30 am

You are invited to speak the words in *bold*. + Please stand as you are able.

## Musicians

Chris Garofalo Piano • Mary Elliott, Cantor • Carolyn May, Flute

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### Prelude

*Sonata for Flute and Harpsichord II in E-flat:*

*Allegro Moderato*

by Johann Sebastian Bach

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### Welcome

with Pastor Hannah

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### + Call to Worship

with Pastor Hannah

A voice calls out in the wilderness.

***It sings of a home for all.***

***It speaks of justice and peace.***

We could choose to ignore it.

***We could drown out that song.***

***We could choose not to listen.***

Instead, we come into this space.

***We let the world grow quiet.***

***We listen.***

A voice calls out in the wilderness.

Do you hear it?

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### **We hear it. In listening, we worship.**

Let us draw near to God.

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### + Opening Hymn

*Hail to the Lord's Anointed*

United Methodist Hymnal #203

verses 1, 2 & 4

#### Verse 1

Hail to the Lord's Anointed,  
great David's greater Son!

Hail in the time appointed,  
his reign on earth begun!

He comes to break oppression,  
to set the captive free;  
to take away transgression,  
and rule in equity.

#### Verse 2

He comes with succor speedy  
to those who suffer wrong;  
to help the poor and needy,  
and bid the weak be strong;

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to give them songs for sighing,  
their darkness turn to light,  
whose souls, condemned and dying,  
are precious in his sight.

## Verse 4

To him shall prayer unceasing  
and daily vows ascend;  
his kingdom still increasing,  
a kingdom without end.  
The tide of time shall never  
his covenant remove;  
his name shall stand forever;  
that name to us is love.

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## Call to Confession

with Pastor Jeremiah

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## Prayer of Confession

Expansive God, we know that the church is your house, and your house has room for everyone. Yet, too often, instead of setting the table for our neighbors, we block the door. Instead of welcoming all, we judge others by our own standards. Instead of sharing our second coat, we hide it in the attic, holding on to fear instead of letting go with love. Remind us that your home is a home for all, that truth requires hard work, that truth requires

uncomfortable justice. Help us to be bold enough to see it and brave enough to live it. With hope we pray, amen.

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## Words of Forgiveness

with Pastor Jeremiah

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## Candle Lighting

with Jen & Joanna Borja

A: Joy is seeing people you love after months apart.

B: Joy is hearing, "Come on over, it has been too long!"

A: Joy is the stretches and giggles of a newborn child.

B: Joy is making it home when the journey is long.

A: Joy is your dog sliding to meet you at the door.

B: Joy is the energy of a new season.

A: Joy is feeling found when you thought you were lost.

B: So today we light the candle of joy, because the welcome God has for us is nothing short of joyful.

A: Rest in that good news. Let it wash over you.

B: Family of faith, we are close to home. Amen.

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## Song

*Where Children Belong*

The Faith We Sing #2233

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This, this is where children belong,  
welcomed as part of the worshipping throng.

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Water, God's Word,  
bread and cup, prayer, and song:  
this is where children belong.

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**Time for Young Disciples**  
with Beth Hagemeyer

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**Scripture**  
with Sean Les

*Luke 3:1-18*

<sup>3:1</sup> In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis, and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, <sup>2</sup>during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. <sup>3</sup>He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, <sup>4</sup> as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness: 'Prepare the way of the Lord, make his paths straight. <sup>5</sup> Every valley shall be filled, and every mountain and hill shall be made low, and the crooked shall be made straight, and the rough

ways made smooth; <sup>6</sup>and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.'"

<sup>7</sup> John said to the crowds that came out to be baptized by him, "You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the wrath to come? <sup>8</sup>Bear fruits worthy of repentance. Do not begin to say to yourselves, 'We have Abraham as our ancestor'; for I tell you, God is able from these stones to raise up children to Abraham. <sup>9</sup>Even now the ax is lying at the root of the trees; every tree therefore that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire."

<sup>10</sup> And the crowds asked him, "What then should we do?" <sup>11</sup> In reply he said to them, "Whoever has two coats must share with anyone who has none; and whoever has food must do likewise." <sup>12</sup> Even tax collectors came to be baptized, and they asked him, "Teacher, what should we do?" <sup>13</sup> He said to them, "Collect no more than the amount prescribed for you." <sup>14</sup> Soldiers also asked him, "And we, what should we do?" He said to them, "Do not extort money from anyone by threats or false accusation, and be satisfied with your wages."

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<sup>15</sup> As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, <sup>16</sup> John answered all of them by saying, "I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. <sup>17</sup> His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire."

<sup>18</sup> So, with many other exhortations, he proclaimed the good news to the people.

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## Song of Preparation

*All Earth Is Waiting*

United Methodist Hymnal #210

verses 1 & 3

### Verse 1

All earth is waiting to see the Promised One,  
and the open furrows, the sowing of the Lord.

All the world, bound and struggling,  
seeks true liberty; it cries out for justice  
and searches for the truth.

### Verse 3

Mountains and valleys will have to be made plain;  
open new highways, new highways for the Lord.

He is now coming closer, so come all and see,  
and open the doorways as wide as wide can be.

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## Sermon

*A Home for All*

with Pastor Hannah

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## Hymn of Response

*Star-Child*

The Faith We Sing #2095

Verses 1, 2, 3 & 5

### Verse 1

Star Child, earth Child, go between of God,  
love Child, Christ Child, heaven's lighting rod.

### Refrain

This year, this year,  
let the day arrive  
when Christmas comes for everyone,  
everyone alive!

### Verse 2

Street child, beat child, no place left to go,  
hurt child, used child, no one wants to know.

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## Refrain

### Verse 3

Grown child, old child, memory full of years,  
sad child, lost child, story told in tears.

## Refrain

### Verse 5

Hope-for-peace Child, God's stupendous sign,  
down-to-earth Child, Star of stars that shine.

## Refrain

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### Prairie Central Prayers

*Christ United Methodist Church - Algonquin*  
with Pastor Jeremiah

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### Lord's Prayer

with Pastor Jeremiah

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.

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### Mission Minute

*Heifer Project*

with Amy Hollander

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### Offering Invitation

with Pastor Jeremiah

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### Offertory

*God Rest Ye Merry, Gentleman*

an English Carol arranged by Jamie Mulfinger

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### + Doxology

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

United Methodist Hymnal #94

Adaptation © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

praise God, all creatures here below:

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God, the source of all our gifts!

Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

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**Announcements**  
with Pastor Hannah

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**+ Hymn of Sending Forth**  
*Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates*  
United Methodist Hymnal #213, verses 1,2 & 3

**Verse 1**

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates;  
behold, the King of glory waits;  
the King of kings is drawing near;  
the Savior of the world is here!

**Verse 2**

Fling wide the portals of your heart;  
make it a temple, set apart  
from earthly use for heaven's employ,  
adorned with prayer and love and joy.

**Verse 3**

Redeemer, come, with us abide;  
our hearts to thee we open wide;  
let us thy inner presence feel;  
thy grace and love in us reveal.

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**+ Benediction**  
with Pastor Hannah

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**Postlude**  
*Angels We Have Heard on High*  
a French Carol arranged by Jamie Mulfinger

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