

BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

10:30 a.m. Sunday 14 December 2025

Third Sunday of Advent

ENTRANCE

Prelude and Lighting of Candles

Announcements (*To help us connect, please sign the address pad in your pew*)

Selected Carols

Greeting**: Tell the timid to take heart.

The Lord our God will come.

(Traditional Monastic Liturgy)

*Opening Hymn: 215 “To A Maid Engaged to Joseph”

*Opening Prayer**: The Lord be with you.

And also with you

In the advent seasons, when the past has fled, unasked, away
and there is nothing to do but wait,

God, shelter us.

Be our surrounding darkness;

Be the fertile soil out of which hope springs in due time.

In uncertain times, help us to greet the dawn and labor on, love on,
in faith awaiting your purpose hid in you
awaiting to be born in due time. Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath**: (Isaiah 35:10)

We light this candle as a symbol of Christ our joy.

May the joyful promise of your presence, O God,

Make us rejoice in our hope of salvation.

O come, O come, Emmanuel.

Response: 2090 “Light the Advent Candle” Verse 3

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

First Lesson: Isaiah 35:1-10

Psalter: Page 199 Canticle of Mary Luke 1:47-55 (*Magnificat*)

(2)

Second Lesson: James 5:7-10

*Hymn of Preparation: 198 “My Soul Gives Glory to My God”

*Gospel Lesson: Matthew 11:2-11

Sermon

Affirmation of Faith: 884 “A Statement of Faith
of the United Church of Canada”

Joys, Concerns, Prayers

*The Peace: Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation
and love. The peace of Christ be with you
And also with you.

THANKSGIVING

Offering: As forgiven and reconciled people,
let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

Offertory/Offering

*Doxology: “Praise God, from whom All Blessings Flow” 95

*Offertory Prayer: 588 “All Things Come of Thee, O Lord”

*The Lord’s Prayer (895)

SENDING FORTH

*Closing Hymn: 142 “If Thou But Suffer God to Guide Thee”

*Dismissal**: Serve your God with patience and passion;
Be deliberate in enacting your faith.
Be steadfast in celebrating the Spirit’s power,
and may peace be your way in the world. **Amen.**
(Glen E. Rainsley, 20th Century)

*Indicates the people standing, if able and willing

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