

**BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
**8:30 a.m. Sunday 13 December 2020**  
**Third Sunday of Advent**

**ENTRANCE**

Lighting of candles and prelude

Lighting of the Advent candle: THIRD SUNDAY; 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 (v. 3 only) "Light the Advent Candle" (**Spoken**)

"Light the Advent candle, three; Think of heavenly harmony;

angels singing 'Peace on earth,' at the blessed Savior's birth.

Candle, candle, burning bright, shining in the cold winter night;

Candle, candle, burning bright, fill our hearts with Christmas light"

**PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE**

Words of Assurance/Prayer for Illumination\*:

God hears our prayers.

**And God responds.**

Our assurance is that even when we forget, God remembers.

**God never gives up. We are invited to begin again.**

First lesson: Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Psalter: 847 (*Response: 2*) Psalm 126

Second lesson: 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Song: (**Spoken**) 2098 "The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy"

Gospel lesson: John 1:6-8, 19-28

(2)

Sermon: "Ego"

Joys, concerns, prayers

**THANKSGIVING AND COMMUNION (All are welcome)**

**SENDING FORTH**

Song: (**Spoken**) 217 "Away in a Manger"

Blessing

Postlude and extinguishing of candles

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