

BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

10:30 a.m. Sunday 12 December 2021

Third Sunday of Advent

ENTRANCE

Prelude and Lighting of Candles

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

Greeting: Sing praises to the Lord,
who has done marvelous things.
Let it be known in all the earth.
Shout aloud and sing for joy
For in our midst is the Holy One of Israel.
(Isaiah 12)

* Selected Carols

*Opening Prayer:

Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us; and, because we are sorely hindered by our sins, let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us; through Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.
The Book of Common Prayer

*Opening Hymn: 434 "*Cuando el Pobre*" "When the
Poor Ones"

Lighting of the Advent Candles^: 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.**

(2)

Response: 2090 (*Verse 3 only*) "Light the Advent Candle"

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination: 195 (*Spoken, in unison: Verse 1 only*)
"Send Your Word"

First Lesson: Zephaniah 3:14-20

Psalter: (*Insert: Alternate leader and people*) Isaiah 12:2-6

Psalm Response: (*Sung in unison*) **Joy to the world,
the Lord is come!**

Second Lesson: Philippians 4:4-7

*Hymn of Preparation: 184 "Of the Father's Love Begotten"

*Gospel Lesson: Luke 3:7-18

Sermon: "*Do we know?*"

Affirmation of Faith: 883 "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.

(3)

THANKSGIVING

Invitation: 218 (*Verse 3 only*) "It Came Upon
the Midnight Clear"
(*Anyone wishing to make a fresh commitment to Christ, and/or to
join this church, is welcome to come forward at this time*)

Offering/Offertory

*Doxology: 218 (*Verse 4 only*) "It Came Upon
the Midnight Clear"

*Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession^:

God of the ages, we praise you,
for in the dawn of time you created the world,
sending light by your Word to dispel darkness.
In Jesus Christ you began a new creation,
sending him to be the Light of the World,
to drive away fear and despair,
and to rule in peace and justice, holiness and love.

**Especially we thank you
for the order and beauty of your creation...
for coming in Jesus Christ to share our human life...
for the place you give us in your continuing creation...
for the promise of peace among nations,
and justice for all peoples...
for the Church as the sign of your coming kingdom...**

Mighty God, prepare the world for your rule,
for we long for the day when there shall be
no more crying or tears,
and death will be destroyed.
Help us to share the ministry of Christ
and be agents of his compassion.

(4)

**Especially we pray
for the nations of the earth and peace in the world...
for victims and survivors of violence...
for those who are sick and suffering...
for our families and friends...
for the Church and those who serve
in Christ's name...**

All this we pray in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

(Presbyterian Daily Prayer, U.S.A., 20th Cent., Alt.)

*The Lord's Prayer: 895

SENDING FORTH

*Closing Hymn: 221 "In the Bleak Midwinter"

*Benediction: Go forth rejoicing in the promise of salvation.
And the peace of God,
which surpasses all understanding,
guard your hearts and minds
in Christ Jesus this day and always. **Amen.**

*Extinguishing of Candles and Postlude

*Indicates the people standing, if able and willing

**Copyright (C) 1994 by The Order of Saint Luke

^THE UNITED METHODIST BOOK OF WORSHIP *Copyright*

(C) 1992 The United Methodist Publishing House