



first community

December 14, 2025

9 am NORTH

ADVENT 3

GREETING – Janelle

SONGS – Common Grace

Come Thou Long Expected Jesus

God Rest Ye Merry Gentlemen

WELCOME – Glen

LIGHTING OF ADVENT CANDLE 3

– Jake, Nicole, and Sydney

Hutchison with Rev. Sarah Kientz

LEADER: We have dreamed of Hope and
Peace; today we dream of Joy.

R1: In the wilderness, flowers are blooming
where no flowers should grow.

R2: The blind see, the lame leap, and those who sorrow find their voices again.

LEADER: Joy is the echo of God's dream within us— a song stronger than fear and sweeter than sorrow.

(Pause as the third candle is lit.)

R1: We light this candle to remind us that God's joy is born in ordinary places— in hands that serve, in songs we hum without thinking, in hope we cannot explain.

R2: May its flame brighten our waiting and warm our witness.

All: Holy One, kindle in us the light of Joy. Let it rise like a song at dawn and carry your dream into the world.

LEADER: Come, Lord Jesus — our Joy and our Song. Amen

BAPTISM – John

Crosley Arthur Willmann

ALL: We affirm that this community of faith is filled with love for Crosley. Our homes are his homes; our resources are his resources.

Together we covenant to walk beside Crosley,
to teach him to accept God's grace for himself,
and to show him the many faces of God. We
pray that together we will fulfill our
commitment to Crosley and to God.

PRAYER SONG – Common Grace

Christ Be With Me

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER – John

OFFERTORY

Invitation to Dream – Sarah

Receiving the People's Gifts

Offertory – Common Grace

Open Up

Prayer of Thanks ⁽²⁾– Sarah

ONE: Joy-Bringing God, receive these gifts and
the gladness that moves our hearts to give.
Use them to brighten dark places and to share
your good news with those who wait for
deliverance. Amen.

AN INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE – Glen

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION – Glen

ONE: God of Joy, open our ears to the music of your Word. May its melody carry us from sorrow to singing, from silence to shouting praise. Teach us to join the song of your dream until all creation dances again. Amen.

PROPHETIC LESSON–Glen Isaiah 35:1-10

The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad;
the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus **2** it shall blossom abundantly
and rejoice with joy and shouting.

The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it,
the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.

They shall see the glory of the Lord,
the majesty of our God.

3 Strengthen the weak hands
and make firm the feeble knees.

4 Say to those who are of a fearful heart,
“Be strong, do not fear!

Here is your God.

God will come with vengeance,

with terrible recompense.

God will come and save you.”

5 Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened,
and the ears of the deaf shall be opened;

6 then the lame shall leap like a deer,
and the tongue of the speechless sing for
joy.

For waters shall break forth in the wilderness
and streams in the desert;

7 the burning sand shall become a pool
and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp;
the grass shall become reeds and rushes.

8 A highway shall be there,
and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it,
but it shall be for God’s people;
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.

9 No lion shall be there,
nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there,
but the redeemed shall walk there.

10 And the ransomed of the Lord shall return
and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness,
and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

SERMON – Glen

“Dreaming of Joy”

INVITATION TO CANDLE
LIGHTING – John

CLOSING SONG – Common Grace
TBD

CLOSING WORDS –John

ONE: Go forth with music in your heart and
light in your eyes. Dream with Jesus until
every valley rings with joy.