

# Third Sunday in Advent

December 16, 2018

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## PRELUDE

*Savior of the Nations Come*

J. S. Bach

## CHIMING OF THE HOUR

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*Isaiah 9: 2-7*

Leader: The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;

**People: those who lived in a land of deep darkness— on them light has shined.**

Leader: For a child has been born for us, a son given to us; authority rests upon his shoulders; and he is named

**People: Wonderful Counsellor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.**

## \*HYMN 23

*Angels We Have Heard on High*

Carol

## LIGHTING OUR ADVENT CANDLES

Julie, Peter, Laura and Harry Williams

Watch and wait! God is arriving in our hearts and in our world.

**We light candles of hope, peace, joy, and love,  
remembering the promises of God.**

We light this candle in hope.

We light this candle for peace

We light this candle in joy. (*Light candles as reader is speaking*)

God of hope, God of peace,

God of joy,

we trust in you and are not afraid.

Lead us to see your beauty and glory

With all people.

**God of promise, God of joy,**

**Surprise us with your presence in our lives this Advent.**

**Congregational Response - O Come. O Come Emmanuel**

**O come. O come. Emmanuel. And ransom captive Israel.**

**That mourns in lonely exile here. Until the Son of God appear.**

**Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

## ANTHEM

*Carol of the Children*

John Rutter

Choristers

Children participating in the Christmas pageant are dismissed to prepare.

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS OF CHURCH LIFE

## RECEIVING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

*(Please note there is no Children's Offering this week.)*

## Offertory

*Do You Hear What I Hear*

arr. by Douglas E. Wagner

Bedford Bellringers

## \*Doxology and Prayer of Dedication

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise him all creatures here below.**

**Praise him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

- or -

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.**

**Praise God above ye heavenly host. Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

## TIME FOR GREETING ONE ANOTHER

## SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

## PASTORAL PRAYER and THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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.**

\*or "Our Creator"

## ANTHEM

*Silver Bells*

arr. by Ralph F. Stiles

Bedford Bellringers

## THE SCRIPTURE READING

*Luke 21:25-36*

Leader: This is the word of the Lord.

**People: Thanks be to God.**

## ANTHEM

*Dixit Maria* ("And Mary said to the Angel")

Hans L. Hassler

## SERMON

*It's Just Doesn't Make Sense*

Patrick Vaughn

## \*HYMN 29

*Go, Tell It On the Mountain*

Spiritual

## BENEDICTION

## BENEDICTION RESPONSE

*Veni Immanuel*

John Bell

## POSTLUDE

*Lord Christ, the Only Son of God*

J. S. Bach

The flowers in our sanctuary today are from the Bentzen Family in gratitude for the gift of family past, present, and future.

Everyone is invited for Coffee Hour following worship. Thanks to our hosts, Laurie Fancher and Debby & Peter Gorman.

Children's bulletins are available at both entrances to the Sanctuary.

Comments? Suggestions? Feedback? Email us at [info@bedfordpreschurch.org](mailto:info@bedfordpreschurch.org)

For inspiration and information find and follow Bedford Presbyterian Church on Facebook and Twitter.

**WELCOME VISITORS!**

We're glad that you've joined us for worship today and hope that you'll come to Coffee Hour, immediately following the service (through the door at the front of the sanctuary to Fellowship Hall). There you'll find coffee, a Welcome Table with information about the church, and people who would be delighted to talk to you.

Parents - Childcare is provided for infants and toddlers in the education wing of our building. Just ask one of the ushers for directions.

A parent paging system is available for your convenience.

The Rev. Patrick Vaughn, Pastor  
The Rev. Heather Brown-Huston, Minister for Congregational Life  
John Lettieri, Director of Music  
Kathy DiBiasi, Director of Educational Ministries  
The Rev. Leslie Mott, Coordinator for Spirituality and Practice  
Parish Associates:  
The Rev. Dorothy Muller and the Rev. Dr. James Fenimore

Progressive. Inclusive. More than just Sundays.  
Sunday Worship Service 10:00 AM  
Church School & Childcare 10:00 AM  
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