

Community Worship  
Third Sunday of Advent  
December 17, 2017  
11:00 A.M.

**Preparation for Worship**

Prelude  
Welcome & Announcements

Joanie Collins

**Call to Worship**

Scriptural Call to Worship

Isaiah 9:6-7

*For to us a child is born, to us a son is given; and the government shall be upon his shoulder, and his name shall be called Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God, Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace. Of the increase of his government and of peace there will be no end, on the throne of David and over his kingdom, to establish it and to uphold it with justice and with righteousness from this time forth and forevermore. The zeal of the Lord of hosts will do this.*

Invocation

Lighting the Advent Candle of Humility

The Advent wreath helps us recollect the miracle of God's becoming human for our sake. The wreath is a circle, causing us to remember the eternity of God's love for us and for all humanity. It is decked with green boughs, causing us to remember the newness of life we have in Christ Jesus. Each candle represents an aspect of the spiritual preparation for the celebration of the birth of our Lord, Christ Jesus—the Light of the world.

The third candle reminds us of the joy of the shepherds as they heard the good news of Jesus' arrival, for: "The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all they had heard and seen, as it had been told them."

Jesus is our Joy. We light this candle as a symbol of joy and celebration. May the joyful promise of your presence, O God, make us rejoice in our hope of salvation. O come, O come, Emmanuel!

**Worship with Talents**

"A Cantata for Christmas"

By Joseph Martin

Presented by the Sanctuary Choir

"Prepare and Celebrate"

"Advent Longing"

"Turn Your Heart to Christmas"

Building of the Nativity

**Worship with Tithes and Offerings**

Offertory Hymn #89

"O Come, All Ye Faithful"

Offertory Prayer

Offertory

Doxology

**Worship with the Word**

Scripture Lessons

Matthew 1:21-23

*She will bear a son, and you shall call his name Jesus, for he will save his people from their sins." All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had spoken by the prophet: "Behold, the virgin shall conceive and bear a son, and they shall call his name Immanuel" (which means, God with us).*

Luke 2:10-11

*And the angel said to them, "Fear not, for behold, I bring you good news of great joy that will be for all the people. For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord.*

John 1:29

*The next day he saw Jesus coming toward him, and said, "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world!"*

Revelation 5:5-6

*And one of the elders said to me, "Weep no more; behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has conquered, so that he can*

