

Unless stated otherwise, all hymns and psalters are selected from the UMH

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Celebration of Word & Advent

Third Sunday of Advent, December 16, 2018 at 10:15 AM

Meaning of Signs:

◆ Important announcements/notices

** Please stand if you are able

The Prelude

The Lighting of the Candles

◆ Welcome and Announcements

**Opening Hymn

"Isn't He?"

Gray BK #74

Third Advent Candle Lighting: (people seating)

Scripture:

L: On this Third Sunday of Advent, the day of Joy, we remember that our joy is in God through his son Jesus Christ. Like hope and love, our joy is a gift from God - it overtakes us and fills us when we remember what God has done and has promised to do for us.

Candle Lighting:

Today, we light this Third Advent Candle to remind one another that Christ came, and is coming so that all people everywhere might live side by side with hope, love and joy through the power of Jesus, born in Bethlehem.

People's Response: O God of Joy, Emmanuel, send your light into our hearts and help us to be ready for the day and hour of your appearing. Fix our hearts and minds upon the things you have done for us so that we may have the enduring joy you have promised to all your children. As we worship you today, O God, strengthen us with your Spirit so that we may always do your will and honor you with endless praises and service all the days of our lives. Amen.

**Call to Worship: (responsively)

L: Sisters and brothers, on this Third Advent Sunday, we gather to remember that God in Jesus has promised that the blind will see, the deaf will hear, the lame will leap and dance and those who cannot speak will shout for joy.

P: Our God will set prisoners free and bring healing to those who seek him.

L: The Lord lifts up the fallen and watches over strangers, orphans and widows.

P: Our God executes justice for the oppressed and feeds the hungry. We are called to remember God's generosity and be joyful. Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Invocation:

Gracious God, girded with gladness, we come rejoicing before you. You are the God of salvation. On this Sunday of Joy and Rejoicing, we give you praise and honor. We know that when we cry for help you hear us and from out of the pit you rescue us. You have turned our mourning into dancing, you have loosed our

sackcloths and adorned us with favor. Today, O God, we raise our voices in faithful thanksgiving, prayer and song, asking that you grant us grace that all we say and do in this place and beyond will be done to honor and glorify your name, for the sake of Jesus. Amen.

**Sharing the Peace

Anthem

"Heaven Everywhere"

Chancel Choir

<>Sharing of Joys and Concerns- Prayer Request (observing a moment of silence)

◆ Presentation of Christmas Gifts to Staff.

Prayer Hymn:

"Nearer, My God To Thee"

Organist

Pastoral 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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass 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.

Ministry of God's Written Word

Old Testament:

Nehemiah 8:1-10

Pages 761-62

** Gospel:

Matthew 11:2-11

Pages 1512-13

**Preparatory Hymn

"It Came Upon A Midnight Clear"

#218

Sermon:

"The Advent of Joy"

Pastor Anthony Brima

Offering of Pledges, Tithes and Gifts

**Doxology

"I Surrender All"

#354

Prayer of Dedication

**Hymn of Commitment

"Angels from the Realms of Glory "

#220

**Benediction

Postlude

Extinguishing of the Candles

Organist

Acolyte/s

Thank you for worshipping with us this morning. Please come again!

Today's Participants in Worship

Preacher: Pastor Anthony Brima

Liturgist: Lindsay Campbell

Acolyte: Addisyn Wolfe

Ushers: Richard Black

Greeters: Skip Smith & Richard Black

Prayer List

Christine Butt	Jeff Campbell	Ann & Bob Gehrig	Erma Carson	Christian Houghtaling
John D. Miller	Doris Smith	Sharon Wimmer	Carol Steele	Janet Foresman Family
Betty Maroni	Sue Garczynski	Beatti Family	Marcus Wenger	Merle Hively Jr
Jim Steele	Jeannine Cohick	Chrissy Williams	Bill Rahr	Nedra Schmuck & Family
Eleanor Uckele	Barb Ginter	Our Children	Our Shut-ins	

TODAY

8:45 AM – Coffee Fellowship
9:00 AM – Sunday School
10:15 AM – Worship
10:15 AM – Nursery (Newborn to 3 yrs.)
10:15 AM – “Kids 4 Christ” (4 yrs. to 5th gr.)

This Week

Wed (19) 1:00 PM – Praying Grandmothers
6:00 PM – Chime Practice
7:30 PM – Choir Practice
Thurs(20) 5:30 PM – Community Dinner



Nursery for ages 0-3 yrs is available during worship.

Cry Room is available at the back of the sanctuary for infant care.

“Little Church” is for ages 4 yrs-3rd grade and meets during worship.

The children are dismissed after the Children’s Chat.

“Kids 4 Christ” is for ages 4 yrs-5th grade and meets on the 3rd Sunday during worship.

“Little Church” and “Kids 4 Christ” meet in the Kindergarten Class Room.

ST. PAUL-CALVARY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH



BELONGING AND GROWING IN GOD—TOGETHER

Thank you for worshipping with us today.

Please consider growing with us as we connect with God, love others, and serve willingly.

1427 Memorial Avenue, Williamsport, PA 17701

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District Superintendent Rev. Troy Howell
Rev. Anthony Brima, Pastor

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Announcements/Notices

- ◆ The Food Pantry is in need of replenishing please bring in non-perishable food items, as always consider expiration dates.
- ◆ Please pick up your offering envelopes for 2019 they are in the rear hall by the elevator.
- ◆ Please pick up the 2019 Directory they are in the parlor and fellowship hall.
- ◆ Please contact any Long Sunday school class member for your Rada order
- ◆ The tree in the Fellowship Hall will be our Mission Tree for Family Promise. This year we are asking you to donate Shampoo, Conditioner, and Body Wash in full size bottles. The tree will be decorated with ornaments that are made during the Advent Workshop and will be there for you to take one when you bring your items to be donated to Family Promise.
- ◆ The Adult Sunday School room will have a Children's Tree to be decorated with Hats, Mittens, Scarfs, and Socks that will be delivered to Stevens and Jackson Elementary Schools.
- ◆ **Ring in the New Year ~ volunteer during our Family Promise host week!**
Join in supporting young families on the road to independence by volunteering to host Family Promise in our church beginning, Sunday, December 30 - January 5, 2019. Most opportunities require 1-2 hours of your time, just two volunteers per day to stay overnight. Sue Fluke will be contacting you for available opportunities to volunteer. Please say yes when Sue calls, you will be blessed!
- ◆ Come enjoy our Community Dinner, Thursday, December 20 at 5:30 pm. We'll be serving a Ham Dinner. Donations of side salads and desserts would be greatly appreciated. Volunteers helping to prepare, please arrive at 3:00 pm. everyone is invited to participate in the dinner, come join the fellowship!

◆ **Please join us again to celebrate the following:**

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|--------------------------------|--|
| ◆ Advent Sunday (23) | at 10:15 AM |
| ◆ Christmas Eve | December 24 at 7 PM Family Service
8 - 8:30 PM Cookie Fellowship in Fellowship hall |
| ◆ | 8:30 PM Communion Candle Light Service |
| ◆ Christmas Service | Sunday, December 30 @ 10:15 AM |
| ◆ New Year Watch Night Service | Monday, December 31 @ 7 PM |
| ◆ New Year Service | Sunday, January 6 , 2019 at 10:15 AM |

Today's Sermon

Date: _____

**Please write the things you want to remember from today's
sermon**

Topic: _____

Preacher's

Name: _____

Things to remember:

1.) _____

2.) _____

3.) _____

4.) **Other:** _____