

# Third Sunday of Advent

## December 11, 2022 – 10:55 A.M.

\*Please stand as you are able

### ENTRANCE

MEDITATIVE MUSIC

Jeanne Banks, Pianist

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Will Waller

CHIMING THE HOUR

OPENING VOLUNTARY

*What Child is This?*—Peery

Lynn Meeks, Organist

ACOLYTE MINISTRY

### GREETING

\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Ina Clements, Liturgist

L: With joy this day we anticipate the one who is coming, the arrival of the Messiah.

**P: The one we call the Word! The one we call the Light.**

L: Like John the Baptist, we are not the light. In our worship, we testify to the light.

**P: Our testimony is prayer and praise, song and scripture.**

L: Our testimony is preaching and teaching, learning, and serving.

**P: May our testimony be a sweet sound in your ear, O God.**

\*HYMN OF PRAISE

*The First Noel* (vs.1, 2)

No. 245

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

*The Apostles' Creed*

No. 881

INVITATION TO THE CHILDREN

*Where Children Belong*

TFWS No. 2233

This, this is where children belong, welcomed as part of the worshiping throng.  
Water, God's Word, bread and cup, prayer, and song: This is where children belong.

CHILDREN'S TIME

Rev. Waller

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

L: "The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom; like the crocus. It shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and singing . . . 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 . . . 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." (Isaiah 35:1-2, 8, 10 NRSV).

**P: The prophet Isaiah tells us about the joy of ascending to God's house. The prophet tells us to imagine being set free, being unburdened, being released to live, to fully live in the grace and wonder of life itself, surrounded by those who love us like no one else. And then he tells us that the journey to get there is just as much a joy.**

L: The Psalmist says "Happy are these whose help is the God of Jacob, whose hope is in the Lord . . . who made heaven and earth . . . who keeps faith . . . who executes justice . . . gives food . . . sets prisoners free . . . opens eyes . . . lifts up . . . watches over . . . upholds . . . The Lord will reign forever, your God, O Zion, for all generations. Praise the Lord!" (Psalm 146 NRSV)

**P: We light these candles, the candle of joyous hope, of proclaimed peace, and of deep and everlasting joy, as a sign that we are those who walk with a skip in our step because we can see the destination, and it is pure joy. We are ascending to God's promise.**

### PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

OFFERTORY

*Fantasia on "Adeste Fidelis"*—Smith

*(Please tear off the pew pad attendance sheet and place in the offering plate.)*

\*THE DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow*

No. 94

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below:  
Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ,  
Whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

\*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

PRAYER REQUESTS

CALL TO PRAYER

*O Little Town of Bethlehem* (vs. 4)

No. 230

O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin, and enter in,  
be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;  
O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

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 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.

(continued on back)

## **Peace**

By Joel Raney

Jane Waller, Narrator Dea McClure, Flute Jeanne Banks, Pianist

*Let Us Adore Him*

*Bring Us Peace Heavenly Peace*

*In Royal David's City*

*Bring a Torch, Jeanette, Isabella*

*Carry Me to Bethlehem*

*Still, Still, Still*

*Let There Be Peace on Earth*

*Let Us Adore Him (reprise)*

## **SENDING FORTH**

**\*THE ACOLYTE MINISTRY**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*GOING FORTH**

Rev. Waller

**\*POSTLUDE**

Mrs. Meeks

CCLI License Number 2745989

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### **Serving Today:**

Liturgist: Ina Clements

Greeter: Annette C. Board

Acolyte: Audrey Mitchell

Usher: Benny Board

Nursery: Peggy Hodges

Counters: Ina Clements, Ben Whitesell

### **Serving Next Week (December 18):**

Liturgist: Bill Cooper

Greeters: Nathan, Jovie and Georgia Angle

Acolyte: Jovie Angle

Usher: Linda Handy

Children's Church: Jane Waller

Nursery: Ina Clements

Counters: Dan Walters, Jack Watts

**Prayer Concerns:**

**Our country, our church and those serving in our armed forces; People of Ukraine; Jack Dillon; Jason Lavinder; Hazel Henderson; Peggie Foster; Kathleen Higgins; Lillie Hatchett; Jerry Davis; Barbara Huffman; Lynn Cooper; Anna Campbell; Betty Dillon; CO Brickey; Dick Shoemaker; Jennifer Cooper; John Cooper; Arnold Dillon, Sr.; Paul and Barbara Scaffaci (Nancy Middaugh); Don Angle (Steve Angle); Cheryl Peck (Sandra Funk); Janis Odom (DJ Pritchard); Becky Bennett (Jennie Ardis); Mike Shea (Enna Roseberry); Debbie Ford (Ben Whitesell); and Dennis Holland (Cyndee Holland).**

**Forget-Me-Nots:**

**Eleanor Woody**

**Meetings and Announcements:**

- Today, December 11**      **Following worship**, Special Needs Adults' Luncheon  
4:00 p.m., Franklin County Community Choir Concert
- Monday, December 12**      7:00 p.m., Boy Scouts
- Tuesday, December 13**      7:00 p.m., Staff/Parish Relations Committee Meeting  
7:00 p.m., Jubilant Ringers
- Thursday, December 15**      6:30 p.m., Cub Scouts
- Next Sunday, Dec. 18**      8:45 a.m., United Methodist Men Breakfast Meeting  
10:00 a.m., Small Groups  
10:55 a.m., Worship  
3:00 p.m., Youth Christmas Party/Polar Bear Plunge
- Thursday, December 22**      **Serve lunch at Stepping Stone Soup Kitchen**
- Thursday, December 22-Monday, December 26**, Church Office Closed
- Saturday, December 24**      7:00 p.m., Christmas Eve Service
- Sunday, December 25**      10:00 a.m., Combined Small Group for all ages  
10:55 a.m., Christmas Day Worship Service
- Tuesday, December 27**      **Serve lunch at Stepping Stone Soup Kitchen**
- Thursday, December 29-Monday, January 2**, Church Office Closed
- Sunday, January 1**      **Following Worship**, Taking down the Chrismon Tree and other sanctuary decorations. Subway sandwiches will be available for lunch and nursery will be provided.

(over)

Assistive listening devices are available outside the sanctuary.

Our Candlelight Christmas Eve service is on December 24 at 7:00 p.m. Bring your visiting family and friends with you to church for worship. This is a traditional time for families to be together and share in Holy Communion.

We are collecting canned soup for Heavenly Manna this month. Please put your donations in the barrel located in the narthex. Thank You!

Valerie Latimer, Administrative Assistant, will be on vacation Friday, December 16.

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**Will Waller, Pastor**  
**Lynn M. Meeks, Director of Music/Diaconal Minister**  
**Jeanne Banks, Pianist**  
**Valerie Latimer, Administrative Assistant**  
**Jennifer Ardis, Nursery Attendant**  
**Rebecca Dillon, Children's Church Coordinator**  
**Brad Hodges, Custodian**