

ORDER OF WORSHIP FOR THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

10 a.m.

December 13, 2020

** indicates "stand if you are able."*

GREETINGS

One: The Grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: The risen Christ is with us.

All: Praise the Lord!

WELCOME ALL CHILDREN OF GOD AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*HYMN *"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"* (verses 1, 2, 4) UMH #218

CALL TO WORSHIP AND OPENING PRAYER

One: Come! Rejoice in our God. Let us give thanks, whatever life brings.

All: May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.

One: Let us prepare our hearts and our world for the Prince of Peace, who is coming.

All: May all who weep come home with shouts of joy.

One: Prepare the way of the Lord.

All: And make straight the path for God's arrival.

One: And together let us pray.

All: Spirit of God, we give you thanks for drawing near, for touching the world in the savior's birth. Help us draw near to you, as we prepare our hearts and our world for the justice and peace you bring. Guide our preparations for Christmas, as we share the good news with those who suffer, and as we offer our friendship to those who are alone. Move within our hearts, as we make a way for your coming, by forgiving others as we have been forgiven. Come, Spirit of God; be born in us anew, that we may live in your mercy and your grace. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

A TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES *"Children's Message"*

*CAROL *"Joy to the World"* (verses 1, 2, 4) UMH #246

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Let all who wish to know the ways of life and death listen for the word of God.

Truly the presence of the Lord is in this place.

THE HEBREW READING Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

THE GOSPEL READING Luke 1:46b-55

One: The Word of God for the people of God

All: Thanks be to God.

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING & MEDITATION

1st speaker: Hear us, Redeeming God, as we light the third candle of Advent. We look to John, the one you sent, to point us to your light. The light will come into our world and enlighten everyone.

2nd speaker: God sent John the Baptizer to prepare the people for the coming of Jesus Christ, the true Light of the World. John called people to repent of their sins and to live into a deeper faith. He baptized and proclaimed the new life that Jesus, the Messiah, would bring. This Advent, we ask for God's mercy and a joyful new beginning.

3rd speaker: Come, Life-affirming Messiah! Keep us mindful of your presence. Help us to love you and love one another in all we do, and so clothe us with your light that we may bring others to love you also.

All: Merciful God, we give thanks that you send messengers like John to call us to greater faith. We strive in these days to prepare for you in prayer and acts of holy compassion. Forgive us and lead us to your light. Amen.

SERMON *"Shout Out"* Rev. Jane Kim

JOYS AND CONCERNS

THE INVITATION TO GIVE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS (in unison)
Offering our gifts to God is a holy act. In this sacred moment, let us offer our gifts and our lives to the holy work of God.

WEEKLY OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *"Advent Prayer"* Dale Peterson / arr. Lloyd Larson
CUMC Adult Choir

As the Star shone brightly on that Christmas night,
as the angels sang to all the earth; may the light of these Advent candles
set our hearts aglow as we prepare for Jesus' birth.

Hope for those in despair, peace for those in conflict,
joy for those who have no joy, and God's great love for all the world.

*DOXOLOGY *“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”* UMH #95

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

Generous God, your love renews us and restores our strength. With gratitude, we offer you a portion of what you have given to us. Receive our gifts, our prayers, and our service, that your church may become a source of hope for the world. In Jesus’ name, we pray. Amen.

*CAROL *“O Little Town of Bethlehem”* UMH#230

*BENEDICTION AND SENDING FORTH

One: The Spirit of the Lord is upon us, anointing us to bring hope to all people.

All: We await the coming of the Promised One.

One: In prayer, song, and service, prepare for the birth of love.

All: We go, and prepare the way for the Lord of Love.

One: May you live in peace and harmony with all people for the glory and praise of God.

All: Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Let us share his love and peace with one another.

PLEASE JOIN CUMC ZOOM COFFEE HOUR FOLLOWING THE SERVICE.

OUR WORSHIP HAS ENDED

NOW OUR SERVICE BEGINS

COMMUNITY UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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December 13, 2020

Rev. Jane H. Kim
Pastor

Jeong-Hwa Park
Minister of Music

Mrs. Rita Lieberman
Secretary