



First Presbyterian

CHURCH OF EASTON



A Service for the Worship of God

December 11, 2022

The Third Sunday of Advent

JESUS IS OUR JOY

**Indicates an invitation to rise in body and/or spirit as you are able.*

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

GATHERING MUSIC

TOWER BELLS

PRELUDE

What Child Is This? (Hymn 53)

Gehrke

ANNOUNCEMENTS

WE GIVE THANKS TO GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

Alleluia, the Christ Child comes!

We wait to meet the babe in Bethlehem!

Let us throw off our distractions and allow the chaos to settle.

We watch for the signs and listen to the messengers.

Let us be awed in anticipation for Christ, Emmanuel, comes.

Alleluia, the Christ Child comes!

*HYMN 9 (V.1-3)

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!

O come, Thou Dayspring, come and cheer
Our spirits by Thine advent here;
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,
And death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

O come, Desire of nations, bind
All peoples in one heart and mind;
Bid envy, strife, and discord cease;
Fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel!

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Ginny Ogden

Each week of Advent we light this Advent Wreath. With its light we watch as the light of God glows ever brighter. As these lights grow brighter, we wait in growing expectation to celebrate the birth of Jesus, Immanuel, God with us and Joy of the World.

Today the flame of this candle reminds us of the joy that Jesus brings into this world and his presence with us. Jesus said "Until now you have not asked for anything in my name. Ask and you will receive, so that your joy may be complete."

Let us pray.

We thank you Jesus that you want to bring joy into every life. We bring to you prayers for the people and places on our hearts this morning which bring us joy. We trust in your powerful name and we pray for all who need your spark of joy to grow in their lives. Amen.

WE PREPARE TO HEAR GOD'S WORD

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Sorry

Silent Prayer

Amen.

**Come, thou long-expected Jesus, born to set thy people free;
From our fears and sins release us, let us find our rest in Thee.
Israel's strength and consolation, hope of all the earth Thou art;
Dear desire of every nation, joy of every longing heart.**

God forgives us. This is good news!

WE HEAR GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Luke 1:46-55
Matthew 1:22-23

GOD'S WORD PROCLAIMED

Spontaneous Christmas Pageant

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Let us respond to the goodness of God with our tithes and offerings.

Please leave your offering in the box at the front of the sanctuary or make your gifts online or via mail.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Holy and righteous God, we offer our gifts with humble hearts, knowing the need in our world is great and our gifts alone will not be enough. But we offer our gifts in hope that you will bless them, multiply them, and use them to help fulfill your purpose revealed in Jesus Christ, Savior of us all. Amen.

*SUNG RESPONSE

In the Bleak Mid-Winter

**What can I give Him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd I would bring a lamb;
If I were a wise man I would do my part;
Yet what I can, I give Him, give my heart.**

PRAYER

Thanks, Wow, Help

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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil: For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

WE GO IN GOD'S NAME

*HYMN 40 (V.1-4)

Joy to the World

Joy to the world! The Lord is come:
Let earth receive her King;
Let every heart prepare Him room,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven and nature sing,
And heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

Joy to the world! the Savior reigns:
Let us our songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,
Nor thorns in fest the ground;
He comes to make His blessings flow
Far as the curse is found,
Far as the curse is found,
Far as, far as the curse is found.

He rules the world with truth and grace,
And makes the nations prove
The glories of His righteousness,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders of His love,
And wonders, wonders of His love.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Rise Up, Shepherd, and Follow (Hymn 50)

Callahan

*The flowers on the communion table are given by Jason and Andrew Lesonick,
in memory of Andrew's mother, Cynthia.*

~::~~

Worship Leaders

Rev. Stefanie Muntzel

Gloria Snyder, Organist

Elizabeth Campbell, Chancel Choir Director

The Chancel Choir

Sofia DeMotte, Liturgist

Tech Support: Jacob Van Norman, Bill Bartlett, Rich Linnell, Pat Koefoed, Luke McGloughlin

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Luke 1:46-55

Mary said, "With all my heart I glorify the Lord! In the depths of who I am I rejoice in God my savior. He has looked with favor on the low status of his servant. Look! From now on, everyone will consider me highly favored because the mighty one has done great things for me. Holy is his name. He shows mercy to everyone, from one generation to the next, who honors him as God. He has shown strength with his arm. He has scattered those with arrogant thoughts and proud inclinations. He has pulled the powerful down from their thrones and lifted up the lowly. He has filled the hungry with good things and sent the rich away empty-handed. He has come to the aid of his servant Israel, remembering his mercy, just as he promised to our ancestors, to Abraham and to Abraham's descendants forever."

Matthew 1:22-23

All this took place to fulfill what the Lord had said through the prophet: "The virgin will conceive and give birth to a son, and they will call him Immanuel" (which means "God with us").