

# Service Of Worship

**Third Sunday of Advent**

**December 17, 2023**

Music Prelude/Lighting of Candles

Welcome and Announcements

Special Music *Hark! The Herald Angels Sing* #88

\*Time of Greeting/Striking of the Hour

\*Call to Worship

Pastor: The Lord has done great things for us; and so, we are glad.

**People: Our mouths are filled with laughter, and our tongues with shouts of joy!**

\*Invocation and Lord's Prayer

Children's Story Time

## WORSHIP THROUGH MEDIATION

Lighting of The Third Advent Candle The Jackson Family

**Leader:** Jesus said, "I am the light of the world, he who follows me will not walk in darkness, but shall have the light of life."

### CONGREGATION: Why do we light three candles?

**Leader:** The first candle reminds us of the hope of the prophets. The second candle reminds us of the dark night when Joseph and Mary found light and warmth in the stable and the love that was shown. The third candle reminds us of the joy that surrounded the shepherds at the announcement of Jesus' birth.

**UNISON: And lo, the angel of the Lord came upon them, and the glory of the Lord shone round about them . . . and the angel said unto them, "Fear not; for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy, which shall be to all people."**

**UNISON PRAYER: Dear God, we thank you for your gift of Jesus to the whole world. As the shepherds found Jesus in a manger, may we find Jesus in the love and joy that we share together. Help us to do our share to bring happiness, goodness, and peace to the world in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.**

\*Special Music

Pam Gunter

## WORSHIP THROUGH PROCLAMATION

Morning Prayer

Special Music

Choir

*Children depart for the Children's Worship Time*

Scripture

Isaiah 9:7

Sermon

*What the World Needs to Know - Part 2*

Dr. Burmahl

## WORSHIP THROUGH DEDICATION

\*Special Music

Well Worshippers

Invitation Prayer

\*Benediction

Choral Response

Giving of Our Tithes and Offerings

\*Time of Fellowship and Friendly Greeting

\*All who are able please stand

**Welcome!** We welcome all those who worship with us today. If you are a guest, we want to give you a special welcome. If you are looking for a church home, we would count it an honor to have you make it here. A staffed **Nursery** is available for small children through the doors at the front right side of the sanctuary. We have a Children's Worship Time during the "Sermon" time. Children ages 3 yrs. old through 5<sup>th</sup> grade leave following the Offertory.

**Sunday: 10:00 Sunday School.**

10:55 **Worship Service** -Please take your poinsettia home today.

6:00 **Children's program.** After the program we will go to the Fellowship Hall for food, fellowship, and a visit from a special guest. You are asked to bring a **crook pot dish** to share with others.

**Tuesday: 6:30 Deacons meeting** at the home of Mary Griffin

**Wednesday: 4:30 Caroling.** Anyone interested in going are invited to come and join in this event. Meet at the Church at 3:30. We will meet back at the Fellowship for fellowship and refreshments.

**Next Sunday: 10:00 Worship Service**

We will receive our **annual Christmas Offering** next Sunday during the Worship Service. This is our opportunity to give a gift to God for the service of His Kingdom.

**All 2024 committee chairpersons** need to call a meeting of the 2024 committee to elect a chairperson. Please give the new chairperson's name to Mary Griffin.

The **Christmas Card Exchange** box is in the Narthex. If you have Christmas cards for those who attend church here, you may leave them in the box for them to pick up. If you would like to donate for the cost of postage you save, the money will go to the Deacon Fund to help those in need.

There is a **list of at home members** of the church on the table in the Narthex. If interested pick up a copy and let them know you are thinking about them by sending a card, phone call, or any other way of showing God's love during the Christmas season.

**The gifts for the Angels are due back today.** However, if you are running a bit late on purchasing and wrapping your gift, we can stretch the due date until Tuesday, December 19. The families will be picking up their gifts on Wednesday, December 20, so they must be back at the church by Tuesday. Thank you for your participation this year!!

**The College Students' cards and mementos** will be bagged during the middle of each month. Please remember to drop a card, gift card, or memento in the college students' baskets and keep them at the top of your prayer list!

**The CUOC item** for the month of December is macaroni and cheese. Please pick up some other things because the food pantry is very low.

A **memorial** has been made to the General Fund in memory of **Billy Batchelor** by the Faithful Followers Sunday School Class.

**Items needed for Liberty Hospice** for their patient's Christmas this year: Ladies and men's socks, lotion, stuffed animals, toothbrush/toothpaste, gloves, chap stick, adult bibs, small rectangular pillows, puzzle, or word find books, deodorant, and cloth un pads. Please put in the container in the Narthex.

Deacon on Call: Judy Watson

Next Week: John Godfrey

Greeters: Joyce Billings; Jackson Godfrey, Sandra Cotton, & Michelle Godfrey

Next week: Faith Tannenbaum, Sammy Poe, Linda Strauch, & Audra/Alex McKenzie



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*“Loving God, Growing Together, Serving Others”*