



building God's Church...blessing our community

THE THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

DECEMBER 13, 2020

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTINGDAN & GRESHA STEFFEN

***CALL TO WORSHIP**LUKE 1:46-55

My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

**for he has looked on the humble estate of his servants.
For behold, he who is mighty has done great things for
us, and holy is his name.**

And his mercy is for those who fear him from generation to generation.

He has shown strength with his arm; he has scattered the proud in the thoughts of their hearts;

he has brought down the mighty from their thrones and exalted those of humble estate;

**(ALL:) He has helped his people, remembering his mercy,
as he spoke to our fathers, to Abraham and to his
offspring forever.**

***DOXOLOGY**

All creation, join in praising
God the Father, Spirit, Son;
evermore your voices raising
to th'eternal Three in One:

Come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn King.

***INVOCATION**

***HYMN OF PRAISEHARK THE HERALD ANGELS SING**

Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King;
Peace on earth, and mercy mild,
God and sinners reconciled!"

Joyful, all ye nations, rise,
Join the triumph of the skies;
With th'angelic host proclaim,
"Christ is born in Bethlehem!"
Hark! the herald angels sing,
"Glory to the new-born King."

Christ, by highest heaven adored;
 Christ, the everlasting Lord!
 Late in time behold Him come,
 Offspring of the Virgin's womb:
 Veiled in flesh the Godhead see;
 Hail th'incarnate Deity,
Pleased as man with men to dwell,
 Jesus, our Emmanuel.
 Hark! the herald angels sing,
 "Glory to the new-born King."

Hail the heav'n born Prince of Peace!
 Hail the Sun of Righteousness!
 Light and life to all He brings,
 Ris'n with healing in His wings.
 Mild He lays His glory by,
Born that man no more may die,
 Born to raise the sons of earth,
 Born to give them second birth.
 Hark! the herald angels sing,
 "Glory to the new-born King."

SCRIPTURE READING..........**2 SAMUEL 6**

HYMN OF ADORATIONWHO WOULD HAVE DREAMED

WORDS AND MUSIC BY JASON HANSEN AND BOB KAUFMAN

On a starlit hillside, shepherds watched their sheep

Slowly, David's city drifted off to sleep

But to this little town of no great renown

The Lord had a promise to keep

Prophets had foretold it, a mighty King would come

Long awaited Ruler, God's Anointed One

But the Sovereign of all looked helpless and small

As God gave the world His own Son

And who would have dreamed or ever foreseen

That we could hold God in our hands?

The Giver of Life is born in the night

Revealing God's glorious plan

To save the world

Wondrous gift of heaven: the Father sends the Son

Planned from time eternal, moved by holy love

He will carry our curse and death He'll reverse

So we can be daughters and sons

CORPORATE CONFESSION OF SIN

**Even as we ask you, Lord, for a meaningful and blessed Advent season,
we sadly confess having done so little with so much.
Forgive us Lord,
for not bending the knee,
for not reading your Word,
for not searching our hearts,
for not facing our sins.
Forgive us according to your tender mercies, O God!
Grant that when Christmas morning breaks for us this year,
we may have a fresh sense of your presence
and a renewed resolve to live to the praise of Christ's glory. Amen.**

Please silently confess your sin before the LORD.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON.....PSALM 103:10-12**

“He does not deal with us according to our sins, nor repay us according to our iniquities.

For as high as the heavens are above the earth, so great is his steadfast love toward those who fear him; as far as the east is from the west, so far does he remove our transgressions from us.”

*HYMN OF ASSURANCEWHAT CHILD Is THIS

TRADITIONAL ENGLISH CAROL, ADAPTED BY WILLIAM C. DIX

What child is this, who, laid to rest,
on Mary's lap is sleeping?

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet,
while shepherds watch are keeping?

This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing:

haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.

Why lies he in such mean estate,
where ox and lamb are feeding?

Good Christian, fear; for sinners here
the silent Word is pleading.

Nails, spear, shall pierce him through;
the cross be borne for me, for you:

hail, hail the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary.

So bring him incense, gold and myrrh;
come, peasant, king, to own him;
the King of Kings salvation brings,
let loving hearts enthrone him.

Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby:
joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary.

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SHEPHERDING PRAYER.....RE DAN STEFFEN

SERMONREVEALED JOY

PSALM 119:111

Your testimonies are my heritage forever, for they are the joy of my heart.

JEREMIAH 15:16

Your words were found, and I ate them, and your words became to me a joy and the delight of my heart, for I am called by your name, O LORD, God of hosts.

SERMON NOTES

REVEALED JOY

GOD'S WORD IS OUR JOY...

(1) ALONG OUR JOURNEY (5, 24, 45, 54, 105, 130, 133, 165)

(2) AS IT CAPTURES OUR HEARTS (14, 18, 72, 127, 129, 161-62)

(3) IN GIVING WISDOM & UNDERSTANDING (66, 97-100, 104, 130, 169)

(4) IN OUR SANCTIFICATION (3, 7, 9, 11, 29-30, 101-2)

(5) IN ADVERSITY AND TROUBLE (6, 21-22, 31, 39, 42, 46, 84-7, 116)

(6) AS IT GIVES US LIFE (25, 37, 50, 92-3, 116, 154, 156)

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

A WORD ABOUT COMMUNION AT TRINITY:

This is a time for all people to seek the Lord. For Christians, Communion is a time to meet with their Savior by faith, to be strengthened and renewed by

Him as they eat bread and drink juice. All baptized Christians who trust in Christ alone as their Savior and Lord, belong to a church that embraces the gospel, are at peace with their fellow neighbor, and seek strength and grace

to live more faithfully to Christ, are invited to participate. If you are not a Christian, or if you are not prepared to share in this meal, we encourage you to spend this time in prayer and to consider more deeply your relationship to Jesus Christ. We also ask that children who have not yet publicly professed their faith in Christ refrain from partaking until doing so.

***HYMN OF RESPONSETHE FIRST NOEL**

The first Noel, the angel did say,
Was to certain poor shepherds in fields as they lay;
In fields where they lay keeping their sheep,
On a cold winter's night that was so deep.

***Noel, Noel, Noel, Noel,
Born is the King of Israel.***

They looked up and saw a star
Shining in the east, beyond them far,
And to the earth it gave great light,
And so it continued both day and night.

This star drew nigh to the northwest,
O'er Bethlehem it took its rest,
And there it did both stop and stay,
Right over the place where Jesus lay.

Then let us all with one accord
Sing praises to our heav'nly Lord,
That hath made heav'n and earth of naught,
And with His blood mankind hath bought.

***BENEDICTION**

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING TODAY AFTER WORSHIP

Our annual congregational meeting is today after the worship service. The meeting will include a presentation of next year's budget and a vote on our trustees.

REMEMBERING IN PRAYER THIS WEEK

Ministry Partners: Roger & Dianne Smalling, writing and publishing reformed literature for training programs in Latin America

Our Troops: pray for our troops and their chaplains around the world

Church of the week: Metro North Church, Goose Creek; currently seeking a pastor

TRINITY FAMILY

Sarah Hutto: hospitalized with bacterial heart infection

Melonie Anderson: recovery from sinus surgery

Frank Myers: recovery from knee replacement surgery

Jerry Smith: pray for his blood pressure to be regulated, for continued memory recovery and improved physical abilities.

Linda Wactor: wisdom for doctors in managing her pain

Claudia Wilkes: recovering from ankle surgery

Lawton Porter: ongoing therapy, healing for foot

Linda Wells: neuropathy, improved stamina

Christie Churchwell: relief from headaches