

Order of Worship
December 17, 2017 – 11:00 a.m.
Third Sunday of Advent

Welcome & Announcements

Introit: "Spirit of the Living God" # 322

PRAISE AND ADORATION

Lighting of the Candle of Joy: (responsively)

Leader: Let us wait for the Lord's coming as we continue this Advent season.

People: In what way are we to wait?

Leader: Hear the words of the prophet Isaiah 35:5,6 & 10 – When the ransomed of the Lord enter the Holy City, "the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf unstopped; the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy. For waters shall break forth in the wilderness, and streams in the desert ... The redeemed shall enter with singing; everlasting joy shall be upon their heads; they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.

All: We believe this; and so we wait in joy, knowing that what we experience in this world is not how we will always live, as God's people.

*Hymn: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" # 41

CONFESSION AND FORGIVENESS

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession: (in unison)

Holy God, we confess that we do not walk in your light. We praise the high and mighty and look down upon the lowly. We have great faith in human efforts and little patience to wait for your way to be made clear to us. Forgive us; deliver us; strengthen our hearts by your Spirit, so that we may be ready to greet the Savior you send, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Confession Response: "Lord have mercy upon us. Christ have mercy upon us. Lord have mercy upon us." # 574

Assurance of Pardon

Greeting One Another

*Response "Gloria Patri" # 579

HEARING THE WORD

Let the Children Come

Choral Music

Scripture Reading: Luke 1:46-55

Sermon: "Christmas Is Revolutionary"

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

*Hymn: "Angels We Have Heard on High" # 23

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Offertory and Presentation of Gifts to God

*Doxology # 592

*Prayer of Dedication

Affirmation of Faith: The Apostles' Creed

I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth and in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried. He descended into hell. The third day he rose again from the dead, he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father almighty. From thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.

*Hymn: "Joy to the World" # 40

*Charge and Benediction

***Benediction Response: "God be with you til we meet again; by his counsels guide, uphold you; with his sheep securely fold you; God be with you til we meet again."**