

Third Sunday of Advent

December 16, 2012

Rev. Dr. Charles A. Wiessner, Pastor

Dr. Lonieta Cornwall, Music Director

The Approach to God

PRELUDE

“Jesus, Center of My Joy”

Smallwood

L. Cornwall, Piano

VOTUM

INTROIT

“Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord”

Chancel Choir

INVITATION TO WORSHIP

(from Psalm 96)

O sing to the Lord a new song; sing to the Lord, all the earth. Sing to the Lord, bless his name; tell of his salvation from day to day.

Declare the Lord’s glory among the nations, God’s marvelous works among all the peoples. For great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised.

Say among the nations, “The Lord is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved. He will judge the people with equity.”

Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the Lord; for he is coming, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with his truth.

***HYMN OF PRAISE #149**

“Watchman, Tell Us of the Night”

[Congregation sings “Watchman phrases”; Choir responds with “traveler”]

***SALUTATION**

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

RESPONSIVE READING #23 Psalm 98

Page 494 Hymnal

***GLORIA PATRI**

*Glory be to the Father, and to the Son,
and to the Holy Ghost;*

*As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen. Amen.*

MINISTRY OF MUSIC *“At the Right Time”* Bob Dey, Bass

The Word of God

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE **Zephaniah 3:14-29** (Pg 681 Old Testament)

MOMENT FOR CHILDREN

***MOMENT OF FELLOWSHIP**

***HYMN #151** *“Come, Thou Long-expected Jesus”*

SERMON **“Advent: Joy”**
#161 *“Joy to the World”*
#208 *“The Day of Resurrection”*

Our Response to God

***CONFESSION OF FAITH** Apostles' Creed (Page 12 Hymnal)

RECEPTION OF GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

MINISTRY OF MUSIC *“Come and Go With Me”* Chancel Choir

***DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER AND LORD'S PRAYER

***CLOSING HYMN #152** *“Lift Up Your Heads”*

***BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE**
“Prepare Ye the Way of the Lord” - Reprise

***POSTLUDE**
*The congregation may stand.

TODAY'S STEWARDS

Greeters: Bill & Sabra Leadbitter

Ushers: Bill, Julie Anne, Jason & Marie Thompson

Nursery: Kevin & Kelly Joldersma

Fellowship: Luncheon

NEXT WEEK'S STEWARDS (**December 23**):

Greeter: Nancy Dey

Ushers: Bill & Sabra Leadbitter

Nursery: Ed & Melissa Matson

Fellowship: Christmas Cookies – please bring a plate of your favorite Christmas Cookies to share.

WORSHIP ASSISTANT

Thanks to Heidi Wilson for being the worship assistant today. There is a signup sheet in the narthex for Worship Assistants for the coming several months.

SPECIAL SEASONAL SERVICES

We have three special services coming up to help us celebrate Christmas. There will be a Blue Christmas Service tonight, Dec.16, at 6:30 p.m. This quiet, meditative service is especially for those who may not be feeling fully merry this season, but many appreciate the chance to be quiet and to focus on the reason Christ came. At 11:00 a.m. on December 23 we will be worshiping along with ICC. Each group will present Christmas music, both choirs will sing together, the children will have their parts, and together we will celebrate the good news for all people. Then on December 24 at 6:30 p.m. we will have our traditional Candlelight service celebrating the birth of our Savior.

ART WORKSHOP

The Art Workshop will not meet on December 21 or 28 but will resume meeting on January 4th.

HELP WANTED FOR MEALS ON WHEELS

Our church has delivered meals on the 4th Friday of each month for the past 25+ years and we currently have 6 routes. One of our teams can no longer deliver meals so we are looking for help. The routes usually take from 1 to 1 ½ hours, averaging about 6 meals/stops; some deliver in teams or by themselves. If you would like to be part of this worthwhile service, please contact Nancy Dey.

BLANKETS AND CLOTHES FOR THE RALEIGH RESCUE MISSION

Kevin and Laurie Dilio are collecting lightly used blankets and clothes for the Raleigh Rescue Mission. A collection box is in the narthex.

FOOD PANTRY

The following is needed at the food pantry: tomato sauce, beef stew, chili, ravioli/spaghettios, tea/coffee, and canned milk. We also need paper goods like toilet paper. Thank you for your help.