

Third Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2015

Rev. Dr. Charles A. Wiessner, Pastor

Dr. Lonieta Cornwall, Music Director

The Approach to God

PRELUDE

“The Joy of the Lord is My Strength”

L. Cornwall, Piano

CONGREGATIONAL CONCERNS

CHORAL CALL TO WORSHIP

“This is the Day”

Chancel Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP

(from Psalm 98)

Sing for joy to the Lord, all the earth; praise God with shouts of joy!

Blow trumpets and horns, and shout for joy to the Lord our king.

Clap your hands, you rivers; you hills, sing for joy before the Lord,

Because he comes to rule the earth.

God will rule the peoples of the world with justice and fairness.

***HYMN OF PRAISE #140**

“Rejoice, the Lord Is King”

***SALUTATION**

ADVENT WREATH LIGHTING

Congregation: Loving God, we open ourselves to you, trusting that this is how you made us; you created us for joy-filled hearts and lives. Show us the creative power of hope. Teach us the peace that comes from justice. Fill us with the kind of joy that cannot be contained, but must be shared. Prepare our hearts to be transformed by you, that we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.

CONGREGATIONAL SONG

“He came down that we might have hope (3x) Hallelujah, forever more.”

Peace..... Joy.....

PSALM READING

Isaiah 12 (p. 497 Old Testament)

***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

“Joy Comes In the Morning”

The Word of God

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

Zephaniah 3:14-20 (p. 681 OT)
Philippians 4:4-7 (p. 154 NT)

***MOMENT OF FELLOWSHIP**

***HYMN #166**

“God Rest You Merry, Gentlefolk”

SERMON

“Advent: Joy”

Our Response to God

***CONFESSION OF FAITH** Apostles' Creed (p. 12 hymnal)

RECEPTION OF GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

MINISTRY OF MUSIC *“Rejoice in the Lord Always”* (Insert)

***DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

CONGREGATIONAL PRAYER and LORD'S PRAYER

***CLOSING HYMN #161**

“Joy to the World”

(Our monthly mission offering will be taken during the first verses of this hymn.)

***BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE**

“He came down that we might have joy (3x) Hallelujah forever more!”

***POSTLUDE**

*The congregation may stand.

Today's Usher: Ellie Clark

Ushers for December 20: Walt & Lucy Paradies

MISSION SUNDAY

Our Mission for the month of December is the Caring Place. We are inviting the Caring Place families to join us for a Christmas service next Sunday, December 20, followed by dinner and gift boxes for the families to take home. The December Mission will be donations for the gift boxes, preferably non-perishable food and gift cards.

SOUP, SANDWICH AND SCRIPTURE

We are having our traditional Soup, Sandwich and Scripture study during Advent. We meet at noon on Wednesdays; we began on Dec. 3. Pastor Chuck provides the soup. You provide a sandwich if you want one. And together we will study some passages to prepare us for Christmas.

CONSISTORY

At our Annual Congregational Meeting you elected Chris Forte and Jennifer Legg to be elders for the next 3 years, and Dave Pynaker to be a Deacon. The Book of Church Order requires us to publish the names of those elected on 3 consecutive Sundays before their installation. If you have a legitimate objection to their assuming office, please contact the Pastor or a Consistory Member.

THE RECORD WE WROTE: November 2015

	<u>November</u>	<u>12 Mo Avg</u>
Income:	\$11,820	\$12,180
Expense:	\$14,280*	\$16,636

*Mortgage is Interest Only

Visit us on the web at Caryreformedchurch.org and like us on Facebook at facebook.com/FirstReformedChurchOfCary.