

Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021, 10:00 AM

Watchword of the Week:

Bear fruits worthy of repentance.

Luke 21:33

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Tony Hayworth

Prelude

Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence

Arr. Whitworth

Prayers of the People/Pastoral Prayer

Call to Worship/Candle Lighting

Kristen and Jerry Hailey, Thad Carter and Kathy Davis

Love's Pure Light

Raney

Responsive Litany

In this season of Advent, we celebrate with joyful hearts.

Christ is our light and the source of our joy.

We count our blessings, and give thanks for God's goodness and grace.

Christ is our light and the source of our joy.

We strive to search for the good n neighbors near and far.

Christ is our light and the source of our joy.

We remember that God has promised us full and joyful lives

Christ is our light and the source of our joy.

Candle Lighting

This morning we light three candles – the candles of hope, peace, and today, joy. This candle reminds us that we have reason to be joyfu8l, even in the midst of strife. We remember that the angel proclaimed Christ's birth as "Good news of great joy, to all people." We celebrate today with joyful hearts and commit ourselves to spreading that joy to the world around us.

Closing Prayer

Gracious God, as we continue our Advent journey, we ask that you open our eyes to the beauty and goodness around us, and fill our hearts with grateful joy. Remind us that Christ is our light and the source of all joy, and that we are here to serve you and to spread that joy to others. Amen.

A Penitential Liturgy for Advent (Insert)

Nancy Morgan

Giving of Tithes and Offerings to the Lord

Prayer of Dedication

Anthem

O Come to Us, Emmanuel

Martin

O come to us, Emmanuel, deliver us we pray. Lord, come to us, abide with us, restore our joy today. Lord, come walk beside us, come lead, teach and guide us. Shine in our shadows and show us the way. O come to us, Emmanuel, deliver us we pray. O come to us, Emmanuel, restore our joy today. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to us and ransom Israel.

O come to us, Emmanuel, and make us one in love. By your strong hand, Lord, heal our land with grace from above. Bring peace for our sorrows, hope for tomorrow. Shine in our shadows and bring a new day. Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to us and ransom Israel. O come, O come, Emmanuel.

Doxology

Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

OLD 100TH

Children's Message

Linda Mathers

Reading of God's Word

Zephaniah 3:14-20
Isaiah 12:2-6

Pat Sapp

Hymn 267

On Jordan's Banks the Baptist's Cry

PUER NOBIS

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry
announces that the Lord is nigh;
awake and harken, for he brings
glad tidings of the King of kings!

Then cleansed be ev'ry life from sin;
make straight the way for God within,
and let us all our hearts prepare
for Christ to come and enter there.

We hail you as our Savior, Lord,
our refuge and our great reward;
without your grace we waste away
like flow'rs that wither and decay.

Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,
and make us rise to fall no more;
O let your face upon us shine
and fill the world with love divine.

All praise to you, eternal Son,
whose advent has our freedom won,
whom with the Father we adore,
and Holy Spirit, evermore.

Sermon

It's Heart - by the Case

P

Pastor Tony

Luke 3:7-18

Hymn 263

Hail to the Lord's Anointed

ELLACOMBE (151 R)

Hail to the Lord's anointed!
Great David's greater Son!
Hail, in the time appointed,
his reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression,
to set the captive free,
to take away transgression,
and rule in equity.

He comes with rescue speedy
to those who suffer wrong,
to help the poor and needy

and bid the weak be strong,
to give them songs for sighing,
their darkness turn to light,
whose souls, condemned and dying,
were precious in his sight.

He shall come down like showers
upon the fruitful earth,
and love, joy, and hope, like flowers,
spring in his path to birth;
before him on the mountains
shall Peace, the herald, go;
and righteousness, in fountains,
from hill to valley flow.

Benediction

Postlude

O Come, O Come Emmanuel

Arr. Innes

Church Staff

Rev. Tony Hayworth, Pastor	Lewis Phillips, Director of Music/Pastoral Assistant
Patricia Rau, Administrative Assistant	Van Krause, Band Director
Nancy Morgan, Pianist	Martha Evans, Pianist
Marshall Mathers, Vice Chair of Elders	Gay Nell Hutchens, Chair of Trustees

A Penitential Liturgy for Advent

Standing

The night is advancing, the day is at hand. Let us then throw off the works of darkness and put on the armor of light.

We are children of the light and children of the day. We are not of the night or of the darkness.

I want to walk as a child of the light; I want to follow Jesus. God set the stars to give light to the world; the star of my life is Jesus.

(Refrain) In him there is no darkness at all; the night and the day are both alike. The lamb is the light of the city of God: Shine in my heart, Lord Jesus.

I want to see the brightness of God; I want to look at Jesus. Clear Sun of the righteousness, shine on my path, and show me the way to the Father. (Refrain)

HOUSTON

Words and Music: Kathleen Thomerson (1966).

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Sitting

See, the Lord's hand is not too short to save, nor his ear too dull to hear. Rather, your iniquities have been barriers between you and your God, and your sins have hidden his face from you so that he does not hear. For your hands are defiled with blood, and your fingers with iniquity. Your lips have spoken lies; your tongue mutters wickedness. No one brings suit justly; no one goes to law honestly. They rely on empty pleas; they speak lies, conceiving mischief and begetting iniquity. Their feet run to evil, and they rush to shed innocent blood. Their thoughts of iniquity, desolation, and destruction are in their highways. The way of peace they do not know, and there is no justice in their paths. Their roads they have made crooked; no one who walks in them knows peace.

Therefore, justice is far from us, and righteousness does not reach us; we wait for light, and lo! there is darkness; and for brightness, but we walk in gloom. We grope like the blind along a wall, groping like those who have no eyes; we stumble at noon as in the twilight, among the vigorous as though we were dead. We all growl like bears; like doves we moan mournfully. We wait for justice, but there is none; for salvation, but it is far from us. For our transgressions before you are many, and our sins testify against us. Our transgressions indeed are with us, and we know our iniquities.

For once you were in darkness, but now in the Lord you are light. Live as children of the light – for the fruit of the light is found in all that is good and right and true. Try to find out what is pleasing to the Lord. Take no part of the unfruitful works of darkness, but instead expose them. For it is shameful even to mention what such people do secretly; but everything exposed by the light becomes visible, for everything that becomes visible is light. Therefore, it says, "Sleeper, awake! Rise from the dead, and Christ will shine on you."

"Wake, awake, for the night is flying," the watchmen on the heights are crying;
"Awake, Jerusalem, arise." Midnight hears the welcome voices and at the thrilling cry

rejoices: “Where are the virgins, pure and wise? The bridegroom comes, awake! Your lamps with gladness take! Alleluia! With bridal care and faith’s bold prayer, to meet the bridegroom, come, prepare.”

WACHET AUF, RUFT UNS DIE STIMME

Words: Philipp Nicolai (1599). Tr. Catherine Winkworth (1858), alt.

Music: Hans Sachs (1494-1576). Alt. Philipp Nicolai (1599).

Let us acknowledge our sins before God.

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry, and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will and walk in your ways to the glory of your name. Amen.

If we walk in the light, as God is in the light, then we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of his Son Jesus cleanses us from all sin.

He delivered us from the power of darkness and transferred us to the kingdom of his beloved Son, in whom we have redemption, the forgiveness of sins.

Standing

We proclaim our faith in the Light of the world:

God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life. For God did not send his Son into the world to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him. Whoever believes in him will not be condemned, but whoever does not believe has already been condemned, because he has not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the verdict, that the light came into the world, but people preferred darkness to light, because their works were evil. For everyone who does wicked things hates the light and does not come toward the light, so that his works might not be exposed.

But whoever lives the truth comes to the light, so that his works may be clearly seen as done in God.

While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light.

The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

The King shall come when morning dawns and light triumphant breaks, when beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to joy awakes.

O, brighter than that glorious morn shall dawn upon our race the day when Christ in splendor comes, and we shall see his face.

CONSOLATION

Words: John Brownlie (1907), alt

Music: Ananias Davissou. *Kentucky Harmony* (1816).

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