

First Presbyterian Church

Service for the Lord's Day
3rd Sunday of Advent

December 16, 2018

10:00 a.m.

In preparation for worship, please turn off all cell phones and electronic devices.

ASSEMBLE IN GOD'S NAME

Gathering Music

Concerns of the Church

Prelude "Lo, How a Rose e'er Blooming" arr. Barr

Call to Worship

Rejoice in the Lord; again, rejoice!

Be gentle to all: the Lord is near.

My soul magnifies the Lord;

my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

* Hymn 362 "Rejoice! Rejoice! Believers"
Ushers will collect prayer request cards from the center aisle.

* Call to Confession

* Prayer of Confession

Lord, have mercy on us.

We are not ready for your coming.

We live in sin, as though there were no justice.

We live in fear, as though there were no grace.

We live in anxiety, as though there were no peace.

Forgive us, Lord.

Show us your mercy and steadfast love.

Lead us in your mercy, teach us your paths,

and fill us with joy,

for you are the God of our salvation.

* Silent Confession

* Assurance of Pardon and Passing of the Peace

Lighting the Advent Wreath

Advent Response

**"Christmas is coming," the church is glad to sing,
and let the advent candles brightly burn in a ring.**

*The choir or leader will sing through once;
Congregation will join to sing the second time.*

PROCLAIM GOD'S WORD

Prayer for Illumination

First Lesson: Luke 3:7-18 (NT, p. 60)

A Time with Children

Anthem "The First Song of Isaiah" White

Second Lesson: Zephaniah 3:14-20 (OT, p. 877)

Sermon: "A Surprising Interruption" Rev. Carter

RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

* Hymn 107 "Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn"

The Sacrament of Baptism (Hymnal, p. 14)

* Affirmation of Faith: Apostles' Creed (Hymnal, p. 17)

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

Offering

Offertory "Come Now, O Prince of Peace" arr. DeJong

* Congregational Response (95)

**Prepare the way of the Lord! Prepare the way of the Lord,
and all people will see the salvation of our God.**

* Prayer of Dedication

GO IN GOD'S NAME

- * Hymn 110 "Love Has Come"
- * Charge and Benediction
- * Congregational Amen (601)
- * Postlude "Tell Out My Soul" arr. Manz

*All are invited to remain seated to listen to the postlude.
If you are leaving before it is finished, please do so quietly.*

* All who are able shall stand.

PARTICIPANTS IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Pastor	Rev. William G. Carter
Coordinator of Children and Youth	Jana Schillinger
Director of Music	Frank Jones
Organist	Kay Ten Eyck
Liturgist	Brian Schillinger
Advent Candle Lighters	Paul and Adrienne Horger
Ushers	Jim McLaughlin and Betty Keen
Greeter	John Conklin

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THIRD SUNDAY
OF
Advent