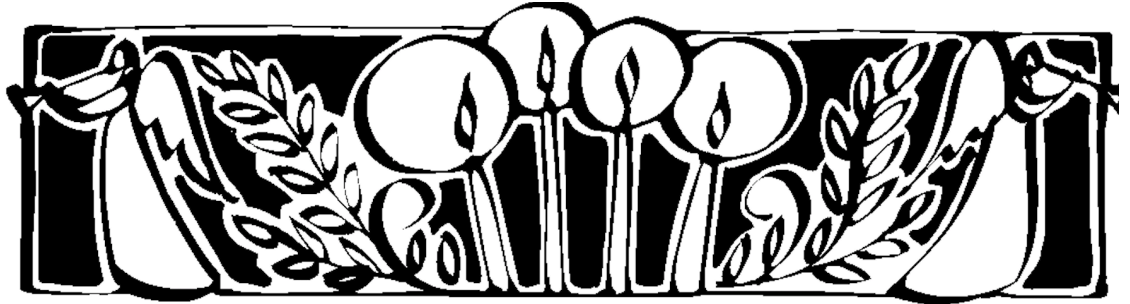




Seeking the peace and well-being of the city

December 15, 2024, 11:00 a.m.

Third
Sunday
in Advent



PRELUDE

Prepare the Way, O Zion

arr. J. Weber

GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

ADVENT INTROIT

O Come, Emmanuel

P.P. Olejar

CALL TO WORSHIP

***PROCESSIONAL CAROL**

#160 Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

REJOICE, REJOICE

WORDS and MUSIC: Marty Haugen (1950-)
Words and Music © 1983 GIA Publications

REJOICE, REJOICE
Irregular

1 A - wake! a - wake, and greet the new morn, for
2 To us, to all in sor - row and fear, Em -
3 In dark - est night his com - ing shall be, when
4 Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though

an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing. Sing out your joy, for
 man - u - el comes a - sing - ing, his hum - ble song is
 all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
 dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall

soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing.
 qui - et and near, yet fills the earth with its ring - ing;
 qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing.
 crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less.

Come as a ba - by weak and poor, to bring all hearts to -
 mu - sic to heal the bro - ken soul and hymns of lov - ing -
 Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in
 Love be our song and love our prayer and love our end - less

geth - er, he o - pens wide the heaven - ly door and
 kind - ness, the thun - der of his an - thems roll to
 won - der, the weak be raised a - bove the strong, and
 sto - ry; may God fill ev - ery day we share and

lives now in - side us for ev - er.
 shat - ter all ha - tred and blind - ness.
 weap - ons be bro - ken a - sun - der.
 bring us at last in - to glo - ry.

***INVOCATION AND LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy Name,
thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, and the power,
and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of all gifts,
we confess that our hearts are often closed to your love
and the joy only you can give.
We try to find joy through things which give us pleasure.
You remind us that true joy comes from believing
in the joy that you impart into our spirit.
Forgive us when our faith is weak and we search
for concrete ways to ensure that joy is in our life.
God, it is when times are dark and tangible things are not available
to help us believe that we find ourselves in despair.
Remind us of the well of joy you instill in our hearts
when the night is darkest.
Forgive us for how easily we are discouraged
when joy is not felt or seen in our lives.
God, grant us deeper faith to access your never-ending joy.**

(Silence for personal confession and reflection)

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

***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.**

R. Goodson

ANTHEM

The Yearning (See insert for Anthem text)

C. Courtney

FIRST READING

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Page 981, 1st half of the NRSV Bible

Response to the reading: "Thanks be to God"

*CAROL OF HOPE

#162 like a child

LIKE A CHILD

WORDS and MUSIC: Daniel Charles Damon (1955-)
Words and Music © 1993 Hope Publishing Company

LIKE A CHILD
3.3.3.3.3.3.D.

Unison Gm C Am Dm

1 like a child love would send to re - veal and to mend, like a
2 like a child we will meet, rag - ged clothes, dirt - y feet, like a
3 like a child born to pray and to show us the way, like a

Gm C F $\frac{F}{Eb}$ D7

child and a friend, Je - sus comes like a
child on the street, Je - sus comes like a
child here to stay, Je - sus comes like a

Gm7 C Am Dm7
 child we may find claim - ing heart soul and mind, like a
 child we once knew com - ing back in - to view, like a
 child we re - ceive all that love can con - ceive, like a

Gm7 $\frac{Bb}{C}$ F
 child strong and kind, Je - sus comes
 child born a - new, Je - sus comes
 child we be - lieve Je - sus comes

ADVENT CANDLE-LIGHTING (The Candle of Joy)

ANTHEM

Advent's Holy Light (See insert and sing when directed)

J. Raney

LITANY

When we think of the countless blessings that fill our lives

Our hearts are filled with joy.

For the warmth of relationships
and the bonds we share with family and friends

Our hearts are filled with joy.

When we pause to appreciate the beauty and wonder of nature

Our hearts are filled with joy.

For the giving and receiving of simple acts of kindness

Our hearts are filled with joy.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*CAROL OF JOY

#650 Rejoice in the Lord Always

The musical score is written in 4/4 time with a key signature of one flat (B-flat). It consists of three systems of music, each with a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The lyrics are: "Re-joice in the Lord al-ways, a-gain I say, re-joyce! Re-joyce in the Lord al-ways, a-gain I say, re-joyce! Re-joyce! Re-joyce! A-gain I say, re-joyce! Re-joyce! Re-joyce! A-gain I say, re-joyce!" The score includes Roman numerals I, II, III, and IV above the vocal line, and chord symbols F, Gm, and C7 above the piano line. The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords that support the vocal melody.

WORDS: Philippians 4:4
MUSIC: Anonymous

SECOND READING

Isaiah 12:2-6

Page 711, 1st half of the NRSV Bible

Response to the reading: "Thanks be to God"

SERMON

Dr. Anne Bellamy

(Silence for personal reflection)

CELEBRATION OF OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory

Wexford Carol

Traditional Welsh Carol

*Offertory Response

So, bring him incense, gold and myrrh,
come peasant, king, to own him;
the King of kings salvation brings,
let loving hearts enthrone him.
This, this is Christ the King,
whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud,
the babe, the son of Mary!

*Prayer of Gratitude

*CAROL FOR THE JOURNEY

#208 Oh, How Joyfully

SICILIAN MARINERS

Unison

1 Oh, how joy - ful - ly, oh, how hope - ful - ly,
2 Oh, how joy - ful - ly, oh, how peace - ful - ly,
3 Oh, how joy - ful - ly, oh, how thank - ful - ly,

waits the world on Christ - mas Eve! Love comes heal - ing,
sleeps the world on Christ - mas Night! Sins are cov - ered,
wakes the world on Christ - mas Morn! God has spo - ken,

D $\frac{D}{F\#}$ $\frac{A}{G}$ $\frac{D}{F\#}$ G $\frac{D}{F\#}$ Em $\frac{D}{F\#}$ $\frac{Em}{G}$ $\frac{D}{A}$ A7 D

God re - veal - ing. Friends, be joy - ful and be - lieve!
 grace dis - cov - ered. In our dark - ness shines the light!
 death is bro - ken. Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is born!

WORDS: Brian Wren (1936-)
 MUSIC: Sicilian melody, 18th c.
 Words © 1993 Hope Publishing Company

SICILIAN MARINERS
 5.5.7.4.4.7.

***THE BLESSING OF THE COMMUNITY**

Leader: May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you.

People: And also with you.

***Choral Benediction**

Blessing

S. & L. Dengler

***The Sending of the Community**

***Congregational Amen**

The service of the church into the world – begins again this week

POSTLUDE

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

arr. A. Travis

***Please stand, as you are able**

We are grateful for those who serve with us today:

Writing & Leading Confession Prayer - Rose Merke;

Prayers of the People - Cheryl Krueger, read by Gary Krueger;

Readers - Emilie Roussis, Carter Bergen;

Video & Sound Technician - Evan Adnams.

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FBC Ministry Staff:

Rev. Dr. Allan Effa, Transitional Senior Minister

Rev. Jeremy Keay, Minister of Youth, Young Adults, Outreach

Dawn Stiles, Minister of Children and Families

Dr. Evelyn Grieger, Minister of Music

Jerrold Eilander, Organist, Choir Accompanist

As we attempt to provide comfortable spaces for all and we have some members who have severe scent sensitivities, we ask that people refrain from wearing perfumes and colognes on Sunday morning to church. Thank you for helping us care for one another.

— FBC Council