

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

December 13, 2015 | 8:45 & 11:00 AM

Lift up your heads, you mighty gates

PRELUDE

“THE HOLLY AND THE IVY”
Pam Weis, Organ

Traditional English Carol
arr. P. Harris

WELCOME

Allan Smith

OPENING SENTENCES

ISAIAH 12:2-6

Amanda Atkin

- ² Surely God is my salvation;
I will trust, and will not be afraid,
for the Lord God is my strength and my might;
he has become my salvation.
- ³ With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.
- ⁴ And you will say in that day: Give thanks to the Lord, call on his name;
make known his deeds among the nations; proclaim that his name is exalted.
- ⁵ Sing praises to the Lord, for he has done gloriously;
let this be known in all the earth.
- ⁶ Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.

CALL TO WORSHIP

“LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, YOU MIGHTY GATES”
Adult Choir

arr. Christopher

(Please join in singing the 3rd stanza, below, as directed)

CAROL

LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, YOU MIGHTY GATES

DRURO

**Redeemer, come, with us abide;
our hearts to thee we open wide;
let us thy inner presence feel;
thy grace and love in us reveal.**

CAROL No. 86

JESUS, NAME ABOVE ALL NAMES

**Jesus, name above all names,
beautiful Savior, glorious Lord.
Emmanuel, God is with us,
blessed Redeemer, Living Word.**

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

ADVENT *ReMOVES*

[8:45] Toni and David Cox

[11:00] Jeannie Miller

RESPONSE

LEAD US TO YOUR LIGHT

Carol E. Browning

(Children are invited to come to the front during this song)

Lead us to your light, lead us out of dark - ness.
 Lead us to your light. Come, - Je - sus, come.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

Kay Meyer

WORSHIP REFLECTION

"O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL"
Handbell Choir

arr. Burt

Behold the King of glory waits

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

April Alston

(Please offer the following response each time as directed)

Leader: Descend to us; come to us,
 People: Abide with us, our Lord, Emmanuel.

CAROL No. 251

IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR
Stanzas 1, 3 and 4

CAROL

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Nell Panten

OFFERTORY

"WHAT CHILD IS THIS?"
Sue Newton and Pam Weis, Piano Duet

arr. Raney

RESPONSE

ADVENT DOXOLOGY

GREENSLEEVES

Praise God, from whom all bless - ings flow. Praise God, all crea - tures here be - low.
 Praise God, a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host. Cre - a - tor, Christ, and Ho - ly Ghost.
 This, this is Christ, the King, whom shep - herds guard and an - gels sing;
 Haste, haste to bring him laud the babe, the son of Ma - ry.

Come then, O Savior, and abide

SCRIPTURE READING ISAIAH 40:3-11 Lou Dawson

CHORAL ANTHEM "GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST" Pote
Adult Choir

SERMON GOD'S PEACE Sean Allen

DISCIPLINE OF SILENCE

The whole course of human history may depend on a change of heart in one solitary and even humble individual - for it is in the solitary mind and soul of the individual that the battle between good and evil is waged and ultimately won or lost.

- SCOTT PECK

Our hearts to Thee be open wide

CAROL REJOICE, MY SOUL WALTHAM
Text: Victor E. Beck

1. Rejoice, my soul! The Savior came
the ancient promise to fulfill:
that God in mercy would redeem
lost sinners, for He loved them still.

3. Rejoice, my soul, the Lord draws near!
Let every heart prepare Him room -
to know His peace, to know His love;
His Kingdom comes to make us new.

2. Rejoice, my soul! The Savior comes
Whom time and space cannot contain
and lives in humble hearts today
to gladden, strengthen, and sustain.

PASSING THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you!
People: And also with you.

SONG OF SENDING LIFT UP YOUR HEADS, YOU MIGHTY GATES DRURO

Fling wide the portals of your heart;
Make it a temple, set apart
from earthly use, for heaven's employ,
adorned with prayer, and love, and joy.

BENEDICTION Sean Allen

POSTLUDE "A CHRISTMAS CARILLON" arr. Tucker
Handbell Choir