

SERVICE OF WORSHIP

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
December 11, 2016 | 8:45 & 11:00 AM



PRELUDE "THE ANGEL GABRIEL FROM HEAVEN CAME" Basque Carol; arr. Page
Lee Ann Spahr, Organ

WELCOME April Alston

OPENING SENTENCES Allan Smith

Jesus says: I am coming soon.
Amen. Come, Lord Jesus!
My soul magnifies the Lord;
my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.
Let us worship God.

CALL TO WORSHIP "SONG OF MARY" Hayes
Cathy Byman, Solo

My soul magnifies the Lord and my spirit rejoices in God, my Savior.
For He has done such marvelous things and all generations will call me blessed.
My soul magnifies the Lord, and my spirit rejoices in my God,
for He has done great things for me. Holy is His name.

Who am I that God would choose me?
For I am just a simple girl.
Yet by His mercy and favor,
I will bring God's Son into the world.

☩ CAROL 269 HOW GREAT OUR JOY! JUNGST
All Stanzas

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE [8:45] Kim Craig
[11:00] Leigh Ammons

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

Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone,
 To heal and strength-en, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
 Here the out-cast and the strang-er bear the i-mage of God's face.

Refrain
 In our Ad-vent, may we claim to- geth- er: All are wel- come,
 Christ and neigh-bor, All are wel- come in this place.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

April Alston

WORSHIP REFLECTION

"HE SHALL FEED HIS FLOCK"
 Lee Ann Spahr, Organ

Handel; arr. Broughton

[11:00] YOUNGER CHILDREN'S CHOIR (GRADES K-2)

Directed by Amy Vandersip

"REJOICE! REJOICE!"

Paradowski

Prepare the way for Jesus who comes to bring us (*love, peace, joy, hope*).
 We light a candle on this day and join our hearts to say, "Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel."
 Share the news our Lord will soon be here. Celebrate! Our Savior now is near!
 Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel. Jesus brings us (*love, peace, joy, hope*).

"RUN, SHEPHERDS, RUN!"

Schram

Run, shepherds, run! Go to Bethlehem today. Run, shepherds, run! Find a manger filled with hay.
 Run, shepherds, run! Do you hear the angels say, "Run, shepherds, run, shepherds, run?"
 Run, shepherds, run! You will meet the Lord of all. Run, shepherds, run! Go and greet the Boy so small.
 Run, shepherds, run! Do you hear this happy call? Run, shepherds, run, shepherds, run!
 Run, shepherds, run, underneath the starry sky. Run, shepherds, run! He is sent from God on high.
 Run, shepherds, run! Do you know the time is nigh? Run, shepherds, run, shepherds, run! See God's Son!

OLD TESTAMENT READING

Isaiah 35:1-6, 10

Elizabeth Santana



⊕ CAROL

REJOICE, MY SOUL

WALTHAM

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.

⊕ OFFERTORY PRAYER

Nell Panten

CHORAL OFFERTORY

“JESUS CAME TO DWELL AMONG US”

Luttrell, Harlan

Adult Choir

Jesus came to dwell among us, full of truth and full of grace;
Sent with gifts of love and mercy for a wayward human race.
Costly gifts of gold and incense offered for the Baby's birth
were as dust beside the treasure which the Father sent to earth.

Wondrous thought, that this small Baby held the promise of God's love,
bringing mortals hope and healing from God's treasure house above.

Alleluia, praise the Baby, praise the life He came to live!
Alleluia, praise the Father, praise the gift He chose to give!

Jesus came to dwell among us, full of truth and full of grace;
Joyful tidings stirred the heartstrings of a waiting human race.

Alleluia, praise the Baby - Greatest Gift of all was He!
Alleluia, praise the Father, His the gift which set us free!

⊕ RESPONSE

ADVENT PRAISE

ADESTE FIDELES (refrain)

Praise God who sent the Christ-Child;
Praise Jesus born among us;
And praise the Comforter, bringing peace on earth.

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 1:39-55

Mary Fran Perkinson

Leader: May God add understanding to the reading of the lesson.
People: **Thanks be to God.**

SERMON

“THREE WISE WOMEN”

Sean Allen

DISCIPLINE OF SILENCE

Because of her singing they all went away feeling moved, feeling comforted, feeling, perhaps,
the slightest tremors of faith.

- ANN PATCHETT

✦ CAROL 251

IT CAME UPON THE MIDNIGHT CLEAR

CAROL

✦ PASSING THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

✦ SENDING SONG

GOOD CHRISTIAN FRIENDS, REJOICE

IN DULCI JUBILO

Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice!

Now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this!

He has opened heaven's door, and we are blest forevermore.

Christ was born for this, Christ was born for this!

✦ BENEDICTION

Sean Allen

POSTLUDE

"COME, THOU LONG-EXPECTED JESUS"

arr. L. Smith

Lee Ann Spahr, Organ

Service of
and *Hope*
Remembrance

A reflective service for those living with loss and grief

Sunday, December 18

6:00 pm

in the Gathering Room

