

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

WELCOME, ALL WORSHIPERS

WHOEVER YOU ARE, AND WHEREVER YOU ARE ON LIFE'S JOURNEY, YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.

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"IF THEY DID NOT LISTEN TO MOSES AND THE PROPHETS, NEITHER WILL THEY BE CONVINCED  
EVEN IF SOMEONE RISES FROM THE DEAD." LUKE 16:31  
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(*) INDICATES WHEN THOSE WHO ARE ABLE MAY STAND.

PRELUDE

MOMENT FOR MISSIONS

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

(PLEASE COMPLETE THE FRIENDSHIP BOOK AS IT IS PASSED DURING ANNOUNCEMENTS; THEN PASS IT TOWARD THE CENTER AISLE.)

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING (RESPONSIVE LITANY)

LEADER: IN THIS SEASON OF ADVENT, WE CELEBRATE WITH JOYFUL HEARTS.

ALL: CHRIST IS OUR LIGHT AND THE SOURCE OF OUR JOY.

LEADER: WE COUNT OUR BLESSINGS, AND GIVE THANKS FOR GOD'S GOODNESS AND GRACE.

ALL: CHRIST IS OUR LIGHT AND THE SOURCE OF OUR JOY.

LEADER: WE STRIVE TO SEARCH FOR THE GOOD IN NEIGHBORS NEAR AND FAR.

ALL: CHRIST IS OUR LIGHT AND THE SOURCE OF OUR JOY.

LEADER: WE REMEMBER THAT GOD HAS PROMISED US FULL AND JOYFUL LIVES.

ALL: CHRIST IS OUR LIGHT AND THE SOURCE OF OUR JOY.

*OPENING HYMN: #116 O COME, O COME, EMMANUEL (VERSES 3-5)

PSALTERIOLUM CANTIONUM CATHOLICARUM, 1710 BASED ON ANCIENT ANTIPHONS FROM ADVENT VESPERS TRANSL. JOHN MASON NEALE, 1851, AND OTHERS; ALT. ST. 2, 7, TRANSL. HENRY SLOANE COFFIN, 1916; ALT.

*CALL TO WORSHIP (RESPONSIVE)

JIM McNEIL, LAY READER

LEADER: THIS IS THE HOUR OF WORSHIP!

ALL: AND WE ARE THE PEOPLE OF GOD!

LEADER: WHAT ASSURANCE HAVE YOU OF THIS?

ALL: WE KNOW THE LOVE OF GOD'S SON, JESUS CHRIST.

LEADER: THAT IS MORE THAN ENOUGH! LET US PROCEED.

ALL: MAY GOD BE GLORIFIED IN OUR WORSHIP!

*OPENING PRAYER

ALL: QUIET US NOW, LORD. TAKE FROM US FEELINGS OF BEING PUSHED, HARRIED, AND BURDENED. REPLACE THEM WITH THE CALM ASSURANCE OF YOUR PRESENCE.

*THE GLORIA PATRI (SUNG)

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.

WORDS: ANONYMOUS, 4TH CENTURY. MUSIC: HENRY GREATOREX. THIS SELECTION IS IN THE PUBLIC DOMAIN

ANTHEM

SCRIPTURE LESSON: LUKE 16:19-31

SERMON: "NEGLECT?"

REV. DICK HOTCHKIN

PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER (DEBTS AND DEBTORS)

***HYMN: #122 COME, O LONG-EXPECTED JESUS (ALL VERSES)**

CHARLES WESLEY, 1744; ALT.

SHARING OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

LEADER: LET US GIVE AS EACH IS ABLE FROM THE FULLNESS OF OUR GRATITUDE TO GOD.

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY PRAISE GOD FROM WHOM ALL BLESSINGS FLOW.
PRAISE GOD, ALL CREATURES HERE BELOW.
PRAISE GOD ABOVE, YE HEAVENLY HOST.
PRAISE FATHER, SON, AND HOLY GHOST. AMEN**

***UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION (ALL): ALL GOOD GIFTS ARE FROM GOD.
WE SHARE OUR GIFTS WITH GRATITUDE. MAY WE GIVE WITH PASSION FOR
JUSTICE, AND WITH GOD'S LOVE GUIDING OUR PATHS. AMEN**

***CLOSING HYMN: #107 AWAKE! AWAKE, AND GREET THE NEW MORN (ALL VERSES)**

MARTY HAUGEN, 1983; REV. 1993

***CLOSING PRAYER**

***BENEDICTION**

***UNISON RESPONSE:**

AND GOD WILL RAISE YOU UP ON EAGLE'S WINGS, BEAR YOU ON THE BREATH OF DAWN, MAKE YOU TO SHINE LIKE THE SUN, AND HOLD YOU IN THE PALM OF GOD'S HAND. AMEN.

POSTLUDE

OUR APPRECIATION IS EXTENDED TO MEMBERS AND FRIENDS
WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THIS MORNING'S WORSHIP MINISTRY

LAY READER: JIM McNEIL

ALTAR GUILD: VICKY LINDSAY

USHERS: GARY & SANDY JARMUZEWSKI GREETERS: CRAIG WAAK AND TAMMY VEASY

FELLOWSHIP HOSTS: CRAIG WAAK & LORI MAYER

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

SUNDAY DECEMBER 15 10:00 AM WORSHIP SERVICE
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
VETERANS OF THE CROSS CHRISTMAS FUND
AED/CPR TRAINING

FRIDAY DECEMBER 20 5:30 PM OPEN HOUSE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ❖ PLEASE CHECK THE CARDS AND CARE LETTERS IN THE MIDDLE HALLWAY.
- ❖ SAVE THE DATE: **CHRISTMAS OPEN HOUSE, DECEMBER 20, 5:30 TO 7:30 PM.**
- ❖ WE ARE IN NEED OF LAY READERS. PLEASE CONTACT THE OFFICE IF YOU CAN BE AVAILABLE FOR THIS IMPORTANT MINISTRY.
- ❖ PLEASE JOIN US FOR A TIME OF FRIENDSHIP AND FELLOWSHIP WITH PAT LABADIE AND JUNE PERRY, SATURDAY, DECEMBER 28 FROM 3:30 TO 5:30 PM.
- ❖ PLEASE SEE NANCY WEDGE FOR GREAT STOCKING STUFFERS: DISH CLOTHS FOR \$2.50 AND/OR CORN BROOMS FOR \$20 EACH. ALL PROCEEDS TO BENEFIT THE CHURCH.
- ❖ WE ARE ONCE AGAIN COLLECTING WARM HATS, MITTENS, SCARVES, AND SOCKS FOR THOSE IN NEED THIS WINTER. YOU MAY PLACE THEM ON THE TREE ACROSS FROM THE PASTOR'S OFFICE.
- ❖ FOOD PANTRY NEEDS FOR DECEMBER; JELLO, PUDDING (ANY FLAVOR), CHICKEN OR TURKEY PACKAGES, CANS OF GRAVY, SPAGHETTIOS, RAVIOLI, PASTA RINGS, KIDS CEREAL (RICE KRISPIES, CAPT. CRUNCH, FRUIT LOOPS), CRANBERRY SAUCE. THEY CURRENTLY HAVE 141 FAMILIES SIGNED UP FOR CHRISTMAS ASSISTANCE.

SUNDAY WORSHIP LIVE-STREAMED AND RECORDED -- OUR SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICES ARE LIVE-STREAMED, SHOWN ON THE INTERNET, AS THEY ARE HAPPENING AND RECORDED FOR VIEWING ONLINE LATER. PEOPLE IN THE SANCTUARY ATTENDING THE SUNDAY SERVICE MAY BE SEEN AS PART OF THE LIVE-STREAM AND RECORDING.

A UNISEX HANDICAP-ACCESSIBLE RESTROOM IS LOCATED THROUGH THE DOORS TO YOUR LEFT AS YOU EXIT THE SANCTUARY. A HANDICAP ACCESSIBLE LADIES RESTROOM IS NEAR THE LOCKWOOD STREET ENTRANCE. A MEN'S ROOM IS IN THE MIDDLE HALLWAY.

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

December 15, 2024

*As an Open and Affirming congregation,
we welcome people as they are,
share Jesus as He is, and serve
our community and the world in love.*



The Rev. Dr. Richard E. Hotchkin, Transition Minister

The Rev. Dr. H. Robert Case, Pastor Emeritus

Organist & Choir Director: Kat Tomaszewski

Office Administrator: Nancy Ross

Treasurer: Denise Fusina

Custodian: Mike LaMarre

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