

LISBON UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
December 11, 2022 The Third Sunday of Advent

PRELUDE and TIME OF QUIET REFLECTION

WORDS OF GREETING

A Time of Praise

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord, always; again I say, rejoice!

PEOPLE: We gather to celebrate the coming of the Light.

Leader: Sing aloud, O daughters of the Holy One.

PEOPLE: We gather to celebrate the Prince of Peace.

Leader: Shout for joy, O sons of the Most High.

PEOPLE: With praise and worship we celebrate the coming of the Christ Child.

Leader: Rejoice in the Lord, always; again I say, rejoice!

*OPENING HYMN *O Come, All Ye Faithful* (vs. 1,3,4, & 6) # 234

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE with *Advent Song* (vs 3)

UNISON PRAYER Ever-present God, we thank you for gathering us together this day. As we worship you, send your Spirit to dwell within us, we pray. Bless us to be your people in this holy season – a people of justice and love, that the world may know your presence and experience your saving grace. With joy and hope, we pray in the name of the One whose coming we await. Amen.

RESPONSIVE PSALM Psalm 89 (response one) # 807

Act of Confession and Pardon

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION Author of life everlasting, remind us once more, we pray, that your good news carries more than the hope of your blessing in our lives; it carries the expectation that we will amend our ways. It is not enough to praise you with our lips; we must also love you with our actions: by sharing our wealth, by showing mercy to the needy, and by protecting the weak and defenseless. In these things you are praised. Help us to prepare for your Son's birth by embracing the ones he loved. Amen.

TIME OF SILENT CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Leader: God desires that all may live in fullness of life. When our sins are confessed, God comforts us.

PEOPLE: May we grow into a people of peace and love, a people who live with great joy as we wait for the coming of the Christ Child.

Hearing God's Word

OLD TESTAMENT READING Isaiah 35.1-10 (pg. 663)

CHORAL ANTHEM

EPISTLE READING James 5.7-10 (pg. 231)

GOSPEL READING Matthew 11.2-11 (pg. 11)

SERMON *A Season of Hope: Blessed*

*HYMN *It Came Upon the Midnight Clear* # 218

Responding To God's Word

A TIME OF PRAYER

Joys and Concerns and Time of Silent Prayer
An Advent Prayer (insert)
The Lord's Prayer # 895
Choral Prayer Response

MISSION MINUTE *Shane Soiett*

RECEIVING OUR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

Offertory and *Doxology # 95
*Prayer of Dedication

*CLOSING HYMN *O Little Town of Bethlehem* # 230

ANNOUNCEMENTS

*WORDS OF BENEDICTION

Leader: Our journey to Bethlehem continues in this holy season of Advent, and soon God's glory will be fully revealed.

PEOPLE: We watch, we wait, and we anticipate Christ's coming into our lives.

Leader: May the light of God's glory shine brightly in your lives and bring you great joy in the days ahead.

PEOPLE: We go forth into the world of God's creation as bearers of joy, proclaiming the coming of Jesus Christ.

Leader: Go with God's blessing in this holy season.

*SUNG BENEDICTION *O Come, O Come Emmanuel* (vs. 3) # 211

*POSTLUDE Today's Worship Leaders

Lay Reader: Trudy Duval
Video Production Manager: Verne Smith

Debbie Greim, Organist and Choir Director
Rev. Elizabeth J. Bachelder Smith, Pastor



The Third Sunday of Advent

Lisbon United Methodist Church
welcomes, nurtures, and serves
all people
with the love of Christ.