

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory, forever. Amen.**

**BEARING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD**

\*HYMN OF DISCIPLESHIP #167 "Long Ago, Prophets Knew"

\*BENEDICTION

\* Stand in body and or spirit

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December Head Elder: Stephanie Phillips Ayoola  
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Ward Gailey, Music Director  
Andrea Emmel, Musician  
Linda Hodges, Office Manager

# Stockbridge Presbyterian Church

December 12, 2021  
11:00 a.m.

Third Sunday of Advent



*Let There  
Be Light*

LIGHT OF JOY

## PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

(Please silence all electronic devices during this hour of worship.)

PRELUDE

CHIMING THE TRINITY

CONGREGATIONAL INTROIT #154 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" (verse 3)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Linda Roberts

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE Ward & Lin Gailey; Andrea Emmel

Reader: Advent is a season of preparation. We are preparing a place for Jesus to enter our hearts and our lives. When we prepare we do our best to get ready. If someone comes to visit we prepare our homes to be welcoming and be a place that feels like home. A place to stay a while, to relax, to feel joy.

**People:** In Advent we are called to prepare a place in our hearts for Jesus.

Reader: Today we light the candle of Joy. In Korean the word is shin, it means many things. God, scene, kidney, and joy. God is our joy, something to be felt in our body as we receive and live out joy in our lights.

**People:** Let there be light.

*(Lighting of the Joy Candle)*

**Prayer:** God who gives us joy. May we gaze upon this light and remember the joy we have in you. The joy we have in your light, in Jesus being here. May we not only receive your joy but help bring joy to others in this season and beyond. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

HYMN OF PRAISE "Jesus, the Light of the World"  
*(verses 1 & 3 sung by choir and congregation to join in the chorus.)*  
**We'll walk in the light, beautiful light.**  
**Come where the dewdrops of mercy shine bright.**  
**O, shine all around us by day and by night.**  
**Jesus the Light of the World.**

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God who is Alpha and Omega, beginning and end. We are called to have our joy in you. We are called to give our whole selves to you. Forgive us when we have put our joy in empty things. Forgive us when we neglect our great joy as we seek little joys to keep us happy. Help us God in this season of joy to not neglect you, to not neglect the needy and brokenhearted in our midst. To remember the widow, the orphan, the hungry, the lonely. As our joy is in you, may we help bring joy to others. As we have let others sink into despair may we lift them up as they are your children. God we need you this season, we need your guidance, we need your light, and we need to remember our joy is in you.**

*(Time of personal confession)*

**Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Here the words from 1 John 1:5 from the Indigenous translation The Great Spirit is light, and in him there is no darkness. This is the message we heard from the Chosen One and are now telling you.

**People:** In Jesus we are forgiven. In Jesus we are all children of the light. Amen.

\*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, Amen.**

## PROCLAIMING AND ENACTING THE WORD

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Paul Szeto

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 12:2-6  
Leader: The Word of the Lord.  
**All: Thanks be to God.**

SERMON "Light of Joy" Rev. Kristy Ray

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE #177 "Jesus, Name Above All Names"

\*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH Philippians 4:4-7  
**Be glad in the Lord always! Again I say, be glad! Let your gentleness show in your treatment of all people. The Lord is near. Don't be anxious about anything; rather, bring up all of your requests to God in your prayers and petitions, along with giving thanks. Then the peace of God that exceeds all understanding will keep your hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus.**

BLESSING OF TITHES, GIFTS, AND OFFERINGS

ANTHEM "Angels We Have Heard on High" arr. Harry Simeone  
Sanctuary Choir

\*DOXOLOGY

**Praise God from Whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below, Praise God above ye heavenly hosts. Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen**