

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

### *Advent 3: Joy*

*Sunday • December 15, 2024*

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**Mission Statement:** As a community of faith, we welcome all who seek understanding. • As a community of hope, we offer friendship and comfort to those in need. • As a community of love, we provide caring support and shared fellowship to all.

WE ARE A COMMUNITY CHURCH. OUR FRIENDS, NEIGHBORS AND MEMBERS COME FROM MANY PLACES AND MULTIPLE FAITH TRADITIONS. EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO FIND A SPIRITUAL SANCTUARY HERE.

### WELCOME

### SPECIAL MUSIC

*DellaValla Trio*

### — OPENING —

### LIGHTING CANDLE of JOY

*DellaVallas*

Leader: We have waited in the shadows ...

People: *Will joy find us?*

Leader: We have wished in the long hours ...

People: *Will joy make a home here?*

Leader: We have whispered in the between-times ...

People: *Is joy possible?*

Leader: We have wondered in the night ...

People: *Will joy come again?*

**All:** *Today we light the candle of joy. Our time of preparation is coming to a close, the moment of arrival is imminent. May we make a home and hearth for joy's return into our hearts, our relationships, our community, and our world. May all of creation gather itself to rejoice once more!*

\*SONG 129      *Of Eternal Love Begotten*      Sharon Novak

### — PRAYING —

### PRAYERS OF PEOPLE & SILENCE

**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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power, and glory forever. *Amen.*

\*SONG 153      *What Child Is This?*      Sharon Novak

### — REFLECTING —

SCRIPTURE      *Isaiah 9:1-6 (revisited)*

REFLECTION      *Joy Comes*      Rev Gail Doktor

\*SONG 158      *Good Christians  
All, Rejoice*      Sharon Novak

### — OFFERING —

SPECIAL MUSIC      *DellaValla Trio*

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

\*DOXOLOGY      *Doxology*      Sharon Novak

### — CLOSING —

BENEDICTION      Sharon Novak

*May the love of God live in us today, may the love of God live in us today.*

*May the warmth we feel within us show in all we do and say.*

*May the love of God live in us today.*

*May the peace of God be with us today,*

*May the peace of God be with us today.*

*May it guide us and protect us, as we go our separate ways.*

*May the peace of God be with us, May the love of God live in us,*

*May the love of God shine through us today.*

## ISAIAH 9:1-7

The people who walked in darkness have seen a great light;  
those who lived in a land of deep darkness—  
on them light has shined.

<sup>3</sup>You have multiplied exultation,<sup>[b]</sup>

you have increased its joy; they rejoice before you ...

<sup>4</sup>For the yoke of their burden

and the bar across their shoulders,

the rod of their oppressor,

you have broken as on the day of Midian.

<sup>6</sup>For a child has been born for us, a son given to us;

authority rests upon his shoulders, and he is named

Wonderful Counselor, Mighty God,

Everlasting Father, Prince of Peace.

## LUKE 1: Zechariah's Prophecy

<sup>67</sup>Then [John's] father Zechariah was filled with the Holy Spirit and prophesied:<sup>68</sup> "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel, for he has looked favorably on his people and redeemed them. <sup>69</sup>He has raised up a mighty savior for us in the house of his child David, <sup>70</sup>as he spoke through the mouth of his holy prophets from of old ... <sup>76</sup>And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High, for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways, <sup>77</sup>to give his people knowledge of salvation by the forgiveness of their sins. <sup>78</sup>Because of the tender mercy of our God, the dawn from on high will break upon us, <sup>79</sup>to shine upon those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death, to guide our feet into the way of peace."

**JOHN 1** — In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. <sup>2</sup>He was in the beginning with God. <sup>3</sup>All things came into being through him, and without him not one thing came into being. What has come into being <sup>4</sup>in him was life,<sup>[a]</sup> and the life was the light of all people. <sup>5</sup>The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness did not overtake it... <sup>9</sup>The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.<sup>[b]</sup>

## CALENDAR for ADVENT & CHRISTMAS

### Sun, DEC 15– ADVENT 3: Joy

- 10:30am • WORSHIP with Advent 3: Joy with DellaValla Bluegrass Trio
- 1-4pm • COMMUNITY CAROLING

### Tue, DEC 17

- 1-3pm • LADIES COOKIE EXCHANGE @ Perkins' ([rsvp](#))

### Thurs, DEC 19

- 6pm • BLUE CHRISTMAS

### Fri, DEC 20

- Evening • JINGLE JAM w/ DellaVallas @ Whitney Community Center

### Sun, DEC 22 – ADVENT 4: Love & PAGEANT

- 10:30am • WORSHIP/PAGEANT - Advent 4: Love
- 11:30-Noon • SANTA PHOTOS

### Tue, DEC 24 • CHRISTMAS EVE

- 5pm • OUTDOOR WORSHIP
- 9pm • CANDLELIGHT & CAROLS WORSHIP with special music by Dominique Dodge, Becca Gottlieb & Gia Osborne

### Wed, DEC 25 – CHRISTMAS MORN

- 10:30am • PAJAMAS & BELLS