

Worship Bulletin
December 13, 2019
Third Sunday of Advent

We Gather to Worship God

Prelude

Lighting the Candles and Ringing the Bell

Welcome and Announcements

*Call to Worship:

One: The Promised One of God brings good news to the oppressed and binds up the brokenhearted.

All: We are witnesses to the light of Christ!

One: The Promised One of God proclaims liberty to captives and release to prisoners.

All: We are witnesses to the light of Christ!

One: The Promised One of God comforts all who mourn and gives a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit.

All: Rejoicing always, praying without ceasing, holding fast to what is good, we are witnesses to the light of Christ.

*Hymn *While We Are Waiting, Come* (verse 1) (screen)

*Lighting of the Advent Candle

One: We light these candles as a sign of the coming light of Christ. Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice;

All: let all creation sing for joy at the coming of the Lord.

(Lighting the Advent Candles)

One: Light dawns for the righteous, and joy to the upright in heart.

All: Rejoice in the Lord! Give thanks to God's holy name.

Morning Prayer

Call to Confession

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God, you love justice; why, then, do we persist in wrongdoing and every form of evil? You have given us the gift of your Spirit; why then, do we quench the Spirit among us? You have given us the words of the prophets and the Word himself; why, then, do we despise and ignore what we have heard from you? You have sent the light into the world; why, then, have we loved darkness rather than light? Forgive us. Restore us. Till and tend us as your garden until righteousness and praise spring up...

(Pause for a few moments of silent reflection and personal confession.)

...for the sake of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Words of Peace

*Congregational Response

Glory Be to the Father

PH #579

We Listen For God's Word

Prayer for Illumination

Old Testament Lesson

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

New Testament Lesson

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Lesson

John 1:6-8, 19-28

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"I Am the Voice"

We Respond to God's Word

*Hymn

People, Look East

PH-12

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

Invitation to the Offering

Offering

*Congregational Response *Doxology*

Prayer of Thanksgiving

*Affirmation of Faith

Apostles' Creed

**I believe in God the Father Almighty,
Maker of heaven and earth,
And in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord;
who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell, the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church;
the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins;
the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

We Leave to Serve God

*Charge and Benediction

*Congregational Response

While We Are Waiting, Come