

Sunday, December 17, 2023

Third Sunday of Advent The Lord's Day

Welcome & Announcements	5	Rev. Dr. Timothy Valentino		
Organ Voluntary Bir & Quiet Reflection	thday of a King / Song in the Air / Firs Arr. Albin Whitworth	t Noel Pat Shroff		
Call to Worship	Psalm 53:2, 6 (Responsive)	Rev. Dr. Timothy Valentino Jim Danielson		
Lighting of the Advent Candle				
Opening Hymn	88: Rejoice, Rejoice, Believers	Congregation		
Prayer of Adoration		Rev. Dr. Timothy Valentino		
Scripture Readings The Old Testament Lessor The Response: The New Testament Lesso	Luke 1:46-55	Lisa Dreibelbis Lisa Dreibelbis / Jim Danielson Lisa Dreibelbis		
Missions Moment		Pat Strain		
Worship in Giving	Psalm 68:29	Rev. Dr. Timothy Valentino		
Prayer Hymn	117: Lo! How a Rose E'er Blooming (v. 1-	3) Congregation		
Hymn	99: While by the Sheep We Watched	Congregation		
Hymn	102: What Child Is This, Who Laid to Re	st Congregation		
Sermon	Fear Not, Part 3: The Right Kind of Fea (Exodus 1:8-22)	<i>r</i> Rev. Dr. Timothy Valentino		
Closing Hymn	89: Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring	g Congregation		
Benediction		Rev. Dr. Timothy Valentino		
Organ Postlude	Joyous Proclamation Arr. Susan Caudill	Pat Shroff		

Hospital Visitor This Week: Faye Hipkiss, 717-813-4638

Lector	Lisa Dreibelbis	Children's Church Leader	Sonya Valentino
Responder	Jim Danielson	Narthex Greeters	Dave & Kaye Focht
Organist	Pat Shroff	Sound Technician	Bob Long
Pianist	Shelley Miller	Video Technician	Andrew Valentino
Flutist	Shirley Long	Lead Pastor	Rev. Dr. Tim Valentino
Trumpeter	Mel Leedom	Visitation Minister	Pat Strain
Trumpeter, Pianist	Marcy Garman	Office Administrator	Maureen Logan
Trumpeter, Pianist	Sonya Valentino	Custodian	Gloria Graybill
Hymn Leader, Vocalist	Maureen Logan	Director of Buildings & Grou	unds Will Robertson
Preacher, Vocalist	Rev. Dr. Tim Valentino	Acolyte	Kirby Keller



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Call to Worship: Psalm 53:2, 6

² God looks down from heaven on all mankind to see if there are any who understand, any who seek God.

 ⁶ Oh, that salvation for Israel would come out of Zion!
 When God restores his people, let Jacob rejoice and Israel be glad!

The Old Testament Lesson: Exodus 1:8-22

⁸Then a new king, to whom Joseph meant nothing, came to power in Egypt. ⁹"Look," he said to his people, "the Israelites have become far too numerous for us. ¹⁰ Come, we must deal shrewdly with them or they will become even more numerous and, if war breaks out, will join our enemies, fight against us and leave the country."

¹¹ So they put slave masters over them to oppress them with forced labor, and they built Pithom and Rameses as store cities for Pharaoh. ¹² But the more they were oppressed, the more they multiplied and spread; so the Egyptians came to dread the Israelites ¹³ and worked them ruthlessly. ¹⁴They made their lives bitter with harsh labor in brick and mortar and with all kinds of work in the fields; in all their harsh labor the Egyptians worked them ruthlessly.

¹⁵The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, whose names were Shiphrah and Puah, ¹⁶"When you are helping the Hebrew women during childbirth on the delivery stool, if you see that the baby is a boy, kill him; but if it is a girl, let her live." ¹⁷The midwives, however, feared God and did not do what the king of Egypt had told them to do; they let the boys live. ¹⁸Then the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and asked them, "Why have you done this? Why have you let the boys live?"

¹⁹The midwives answered Pharaoh, "Hebrew women are not like Egyptian women; they are vigorous and give birth before the midwives arrive."

²⁰ So God was kind to the midwives and the people increased and became even more numerous. ²¹ And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families of their own.

²²Then Pharaoh gave this order to all his people: "Every Hebrew boy that is born you must throw into the Nile, but let every girl live."

The Response: Luke 1:46-55

⁴⁶And Mary said:

"My soul glorifies the Lord ⁴⁷ and my spirit rejoices in God my Savior,

⁴⁸ for he has been mindful

of the humble state of his servant.

From now on all generations will call me blessed, ⁴⁹ for the Mighty One has done great things for me—holy is his name.

MUSICAL REFRAIN:

Immanuel, our God is with us And if God is with us Who could stand against us? Our God is with us, Immanuel

⁵⁰ His mercy extends to those who fear him, from generation to generation.

⁵¹ He has performed mighty deeds with his arm; he has scattered those who are proud in their inmost thoughts.

⁵²He has brought down rulers from their thrones but has lifted up the humble.

⁵³ He has filled the hungry with good things but has sent the rich away empty.

- ⁵⁴He has helped his servant Israel, remembering to be merciful
- ⁵⁵ to Abraham and his descendants forever, just as he promised our ancestors."

MUSICAL REFRAIN:

Immanuel, our God is with us And if God is with us Who could stand against us? Our God is with us, Immanuel

The New Testament Lesson: John 1:6-8, 19-28 *Congregation Stand

⁶There was a man sent from God whose name was John. ⁷He came as a witness to testify concerning that light, so that through him all might believe. ⁸He himself was not the light; he came only as a witness to the light.

¹⁹ Now this was John's testimony when the Jewish leaders in Jerusalem sent priests and Levites to ask him who he was. ²⁰ He did not fail to confess, but confessed freely, "I am not the Messiah."

²¹They asked him, "Then who are you? Are you Elijah?"

He said, "I am not."

"Are you the Prophet?"

He answered, "No."

²² Finally they said, "Who are you? Give us an answer to take back to those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?"

²³John replied in the words of Isaiah the prophet, "I am the voice of one calling in the wilderness, 'Make straight the way for the Lord.' "

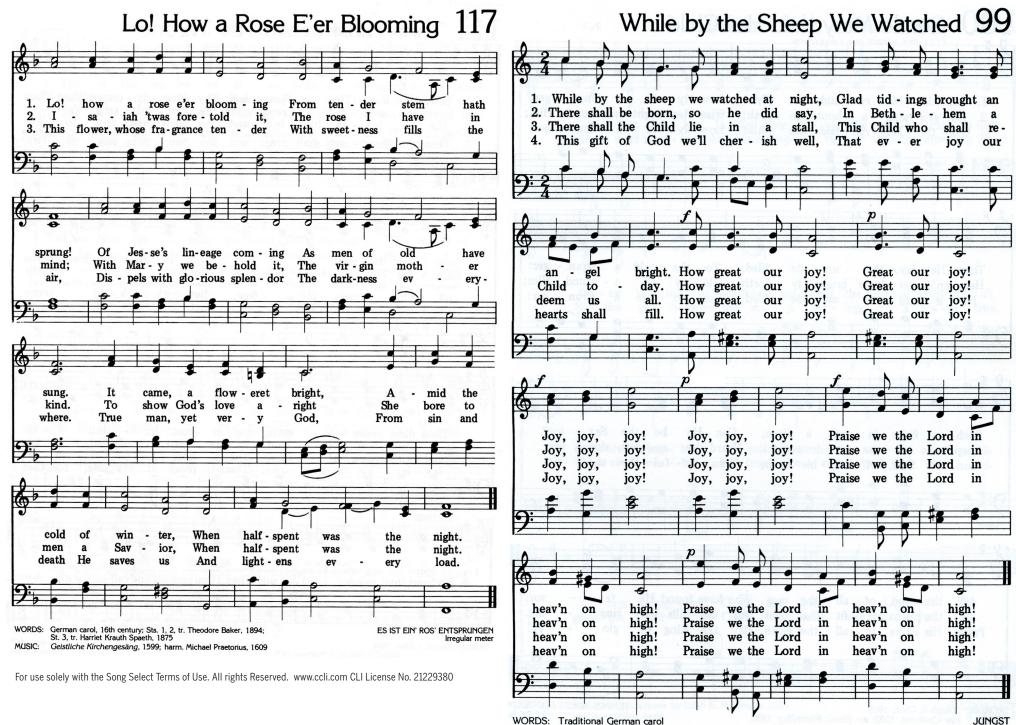
²⁴ Now the Pharisees who had been sent ²⁵ questioned him, "Why then do you baptize if you are not the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the Prophet?"

²⁶ "I baptize with water," John replied, "but among you stands one you do not know. ²⁷ He is the one who comes after me, the straps of whose sandals I am not worthy to untie."

²⁸This all happened at Bethany on the other side of the Jordan, where John was baptizing.

Worship in Giving: Psalm 68:29

²⁹ Because of your temple at Jerusalem kings will bring you gifts.



MUSIC: Traditional German melody; arr. Hugo Jungst, c.1890

Irregular meter



REMINDER

*** Please sign the Christmas Cards to be sent to the Missionaries we support. ***

They can be found on the information table in the narthex

UPCOMING EVENTS

Wednesday: <u>MIDWEEK BIBLE STUDY</u> Online via Zoom @ 7:00 p.m. Sundays: <u>SUNDAY SCHOOL</u> for all ages @ 9:00 a.m. <u>MORNING WORSHIP</u> in Dech Chapel + Online @ 10:30 a.m.

Sunday, December 24: <u>NO SUNDAY SCHOOL!</u> <u>MORNING WORSHIP</u> in Dech Chapel + Online @ 10:30 a.m. <u>CHRISTMAS EVE CANDLELIGHT SERVICE</u> 7 p.m. in Dech Chapel + Online

Saturday, January 6: CHURCH FELLOWSHIP BREAKFAST

@ 8:30 a.m. in Zinn Commons

Monday, January 8: MINISTRY COUNCIL MEETING

7 p.m. in Zinn Commons + Online via Zoom

Thursday, January 11:

<u>WOMEN OF FAITH</u> @ 7:00 p.m. in Zinn Commons <u>MEN OF ADVENTURE</u> @ 7:00 p.m. at the Keller home

Sunday, January 21: <u>CHURCH DINNER</u> @ 12:15 p.m. in Zinn Commons. Please sign up to let us know how many will be attending.

If you plan to bring food, please add it to the sign-up sheet.

The list of **Sharing Cupboard** current food needs: • Snack food • **Spaghetti Sauce** • **Peanut Butter**

Chips • Pretzels • Cookies

- Crackers
 Toiletries
- Other Regular Items

Prayer Requests: If you have any prayer requests for distribution, please send them to Pastor Tim at <u>pastortim@christcomm.church</u> or (484) 269-4313.

We are looking to start an active **Intercessory Prayer Team** rotation during our morning worshp service. If you would like more info on this way to serve, there is a sign up sheet in the narthex. Francy Lindenmuth will contact you.

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