

SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE

THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT

DECEMBER 17, 2023 | 10:15 A.M.

PREPARATION & PRAISE

Prelude: "While Shepherd Watched Their Flocks By Night" D. Forrest
"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" L. Larson

Welcome and Announcements

ENTER HIS GATES WITH THANKSGIVING

Lighting of the Advent Candle: based on Isaiah 7:14, 12:1-6

Prayer of the Day:

Eternal Father, in you and through your Son we find the beginning and end of all things. In Jesus' coming we find hope, forgiveness, and courage for new beginnings. Let then, O God, the winds of your Spirit sweep into our lives today, so that in this act of worship and in the week to follow we may be renewed in faithfulness, obedience, and dedication to your service. Amen.

- * Hymn: "O Come, All Ye Faithful" PH 340:1,3,4
- * God's Greeting

CONFESSION & PRAYER

Stories that Change Everything: Obedience based on Matthew 1:18-25

God's Will for Our Lives: Deuteronomy 32:46-47; Matthew 22:37-40

Prayer of Confession

Assurance of Pardon: Luke 1:78-79, John 1:29

Choir: "See, Amid the Winter's Snow" arr. D. Forrest

Congregational Prayer

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

- * Hymn: "O Come, O Come, Immanuel" PH 328:1,4,5
- Prayer for Illumination
- Sermon: *Advent Reshapes Our Obedience* Matthew 1:18-25 (p. 955)
- * Hymn: "On Christmas Night"

OUR RESPONSE OF GRATITUDE

- * Offertory Prayer for the General Fund & Children's Haven
- * Confession of Faith: Apostles' Creed

BLESSING & DISMISSAL

- * Benediction: II Thessalonians 2:16-17
- * Doxology: "As with Gladness Men of Old" PH 358:4,5
- Postlude: "God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen" M. Hayes

**Indicates congregation stands, as able*

Minister: Rev. Joel Vande Werken

Candle Lighters: Mason Moesker, Owen Moesker, Tim & Kim Kats

Liturgist: Mark DeWeerd

Piano: Laurie Vander Baan, Terry Ebbeling

Choir Director: Laurie Vander Baan

Prayer of the Day adapted from Worship Sourcebook 1.4.47