**Worship at Bethel 12-13-20**

**3rd Sunday in Advent**

**Music: Piano: Mila Khmeleva Hymnists: Joy Faciane & Patsy Lohmer**

Welcome & Announcements – Pastor Barb

Gathering Music:

**Song – “He Came Down”ELW, # 253**

1. He came down that we may have **love**;

he came down that we may have **love**;

he came down that we may have **love**;

hallelujah forevermore.

1. **Light**
2. **Peace**
3. **Joy**

***“Angels, from the Realms of Glory” ELW, # 275***

1. Angels, from the realms of glory, Wing your flight o’er all the earth; Once you sang creations’s story; Now proclaim Messiah’s birth;

***Refrain: Come and worship, come and worship, Worship Christ, the newborn king.***

1. Shepherds, in the fields abiding, Watching o’er your flocks by night, God with us is now residing, Yonder shines the infant light. ***Refrain***
2. Sages, leave your contemplations, Brighter visions beam afar; Seek the great dsire of nations, You have seen his natal star. ***Refrain***

4. All creation, join in praising God, the Father, Spirit, Son, Evermore your voices raising To the eternal Three in One. ***Refrain***

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| **Advent video** |

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**All: AMEN**

 ***Lighting of the Advent Wreath***

P: *Today is the third Sunday of Advent, the Sunday in which we recall the JOY we have in Christ.*

***C: The prophets of Israel all spoke of the coming of Christ, of how the Savior would be born, a king of the line of David. They spoke of how he would rule the world wisely and bless the nations.***

P: *On Christmas day the Christ of JOY was born. On Good Friday the Christ of our JOY died. On Easter morning the Christ of our JOY rose from the dead. He then ascended into heaven. On the last day the Christ of JOY will return again bringing in his kingdom to reign over all the earth.*

***C: As followers of Christ, we await his return. We light these three candles to remember that as he came to us humbly in a manager at Bethlehem and gave light to the world, so he is coming again in power to deliver his people.***

P: *We light this candle to remind us to be alert and filled with JOY as we watch for his return.*

**SONG - “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” ELW, # 257**

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel, And ransom captive Israel,

That mourns in lonely exile here Until the Son of God appear.

***Refrain: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel Shall come to you, O Israel.***

3. O, come, O come, great Lord of might, Who to your tribes on Sinai’s height

In ancient times once gave the law In cloud and majesty, and awe.

***Refrain***

4. O come, O Branch of Jesse, free your own from Satan’s tyranny;

From depths of hell your people save, and give them vict’ry o’er the grave.

***Refrain***

**Opening Prayer**

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28

**Song– “Joy to the World” ELW, # 267**

1. Joy to the world, the Lord is come! Let earth receive her king;

Let ev’ry heart prepare him room and heav’n and nature sing,

And heav’n and nature sing, and heav’n and heav’n and nature sing.

1. Joy to the earth, the Savior reigns! Let all their songs employ,

while fields and floods, rocks, hills, and plains repeat the sounding joy,

repeat the sounding joy, repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

Sermon **“God with Us brings JOY”**

***Litany of Confession and Forgiveness***

P: God of all mercy and consolation, come to the aid of your people, turning us from our sin to live for you alone. Give us the power of your Holy Spirit that, attentive to your Word, we may confess our sins, receive your forgiveness, and grow into the fullness of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

**C: Amen.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another. Gracious God,

C: have mercy on us. In your compassion forgive us our sins, known and unknown, things done and left undone. Forgive those moments when we have failed to live as your people, longing for your return. Forgive our moments of selfishness. Forgive our moments of anger. Help keep us alert for you.

P: Almighty God have mercy on us, forgiving us all our sins through our Lord Jesus Christ as we are strengthen in all goodness with our eyes opened to watch for Christ’s return. May God keep us ever mindful of his coming. In the name of the Father, + and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

C: Amen.

**Apostles’ Creed**

**I believe in God, the Father almighty,**

**creator of heaven and earth.**

**I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,**

 **who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,**

 **born of the virgin Mary,**

 **suffered under Pontius Pilate,**

 **was crucified, died, and was buried;**

 **he descended into hell.**

 **On the third day he rose again;**

 **he ascended into heaven,**

 **he is seated at the right hand of the Father,**

 **and he will come to judge the living and the dead.**

**I believe in the Holy Spirit,**

 **the holy catholic church,**

 **the communion of saints,**

 **the forgiveness of sins,**

 **the resurrection of the body,**

 **and the life everlasting. Amen.**

**Prayers of the Church**

**Communion: Words of Institution**

**Lord’s Prayer**

**Benediction**

**Closing Song: “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” ELW, # 288**

1. Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; give ye heed to what we say: Jesus Christ is born today; ox and ass before him bow, and he is in the manger now.

Christ is born today! Christ is born today!

1. Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now ye hear of endless bliss: Jesus Christ was born for this! He has opened heaven’s door, and we are blest forevermore. Christ was born for this! Christ was born for this!

3. Good Christian friends, rejoice with heart and soul and voice; now ye need not fear the grave; Jesus Christ was born to save! Calls you one and calls you all to gain the everlasting hall. Christ was born to save! Christ was born to save!

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P: Go in Peace, serve the Lord!

**C: Thanks be to God!**