

Order of Worship
December 13th 2020 ~ Third Sunday of Advent

Prelude

Welcome, Announcements, and Peace

Call to Worship

Joy comes to those who hope in God.

For the Lord is a keeper of promises.

Our God is a God of healing and help and hope!

The Lord will reign forever,

Our God will keep faith with all generations.

Let us praise the Lord both now and forevermore!

Amen.

– posted on the Archives page of the Lectionary Sermons website.

Hymn of Praise

Glorious Light

Verse 1

Glorious light see the dawn of
salvation

Angels in white fill the skies

With their wondrous song

Awakening earth with news of

His birth

Join the hymn of the highest

heavens

Verse 2

Long has the world fought

The song of the angels

Heavenly music is drowned

By a warring world

Yet hope burns a light that
shatters the night

Turn your heart to the call of
glory

Chorus

Glory to God in the highest

Peace to men on earth

Come and adore Him with
wonder

Christ Lord of heaven and earth

Verse 3

There is a day all creation has
longed for

When all of time has been
spent

And the Lord returns

His song we'll repeat as heaven
completes

Promised peace that will fill the
nations

Chorus

Glory to God in the highest

Peace to men on earth

Come and adore Him with
wonder

Christ Lord of heaven and earth

Opening Prayer

Dear Lord Jesus, there are so many sad and troublesome things to face in the world today, which too often cause our hearts to become weighed down with difficulties and doubts — but we pray that Your joy would fill our hearts and strengthen our souls.

We pray that Your joy and laughter may flow through us to others and that together we may maintain an ever deepening trust in You. In your strong name Lord Jesus we pray. **Amen.**

– adapted from serendipity.com

Special Music

Let There Be Praise

Dick Tunney & Melodie Tunney

Scripture Reading

Bob Wolfe, reader

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 (NRSV)

5:16 Rejoice always,

5:17 pray without ceasing,

5:18 give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.

5:19 Do not quench the Spirit.

5:20 Do not despise the words of prophets,

5:21 but test everything; hold fast to what is good;

5:22 abstain from every form of evil.

5:23 May the God of peace himself sanctify you entirely; and may your spirit and soul and body be kept sound and blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ.

5:24 The one who calls you is faithful, and he will do this.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon

Time for Some Joy

Senior Pastor Robert de Wetter

Pastoral Prayer

Prayers of the People

Bob Wolfe, reader

Offertory

Joy

Rend Collective

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise Him all creatures here below

Praise Him above ye heav'nly host

Praise Father Son and Holy Ghost

Amen

Communion

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for Thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

Communion Hymn

Joyful Joyful We Adore Thee (Ode To Joy)

Verse 1

Joyful joyful we adore Thee
God of glory Lord of love
Hearts unfold like flow'rs before
Thee
Opening to the sun above
Melt the clouds of sin and
sadness
Drive the dark of doubt away
Giver of immortal gladness
Fill us with the light of day

Verse 2

All Thy works with joy surround
Thee
Earth and heav'n reflect Thy
rays

Stars and angels sing around
Thee
Center of unbroken praise
Field and forest vale and
mountain

Flowery meadow flashing sea
Chanting bird and flowing
fountain
Call us to rejoice in Thee

Verse 3

Thou art giving and forgiving
Ever blessing ever blest
Wellspring of the joy of living
Ocean depth of happy rest
Thou our Father Christ our
Brother

All who live in love are Thine
Teach us how to love each
other
Lift us to the joy divine

Verse 4

Mortals join the mighty chorus
Which the morning stars began
Father love is reigning o'er us
Brother love binds man to man
Ever singing march we onward
Victors in the midst of strife
Joyful music lifts us sunward
In the triumph song of life

Back Talk

Closing Prayer

God comes! So don't let go
of all the reasons to rejoice.

**We will sing a song of Advent
to the One who fills our lives with joy.**

God comes! So don't stop
lifting your prayers with thanksgiving.

**We will sing a song of Advent,
to the One who hears our words and silence.**

God comes! So don't stop
giving your hearts to God.

**We will sing a song of Advent
to the One who graces us with a peace
we cannot begin to understand.**

Amen.

– written by Thom Shuman

Blessing

Postlude

Joy Has Dawned

Stuart Townend & Keith Getty

Our love in action now begins...

Our Sunday School is next...

This Sunday's Special Music is brought to you by Michael Schoepe.