

*Your Friendly
Community Church*



December 11, 2022

**Third Sunday
of Advent**

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ORDER OF WORSHIP

WE GATHER AT GOD'S INVITATION

PRELUDE

WELCOME Sherry Smoak
& ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP (Isaiah 35)

Leader: In the midst of the barren land,

People: flowers burst into bloom.

Leader: In the midst of the dry desert,

People: streams of water gush forth.

Leader: In the midst of sorrow and sighing,

People: joy and gladness dance together.

Leader: We shall see the glory of God!

*HYMN UMH #216

"Lo, How a Rose E'er Blooming"

*PRAYER OF THE DAY

O Lord, you know the deserts and the parched places in our lives. We seek your healing power. Lead us on this Advent journey to the place of new birth and to the place of our redemption; for we ask this in Jesus' name. Amen.

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

The Billingsley Family

APPORTIONMENT UPDATE

Rev. Meegian Gossard

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

Diane Horn

WE LISTEN TO GOD'S WORD

*PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Lord, open our hearts and minds by the power of your Holy Spirit, that as the Scriptures are read and your Word is proclaimed, we may hear with joy what you say to us today. Amen.

*GOSPEL LESSON

NT #53

Luke 1:26-38

SERMON

Rev. Meegian Gossard

"When You're Sure You're Right"

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

We belong to God, eternal and infinite, Creator of all things and all that is to come. We follow

Christ, who comes to us from God, and reveals God to us. He heals people and transforms lives, and calls us to join in his ministry. He was crucified, died, and was raised by God, and reigns over all Creation; and he bids us to die and rise with Him in the service of the healing of the world. We live by the Spirit, together with the communion of saints, as members of the Body of Christ, God's holy universal church. We are confident in the forgiveness of sin, the power of resurrection, and the reality of eternal life. In all things it is our desire to follow Christ, by the grace of the Holy Spirit, for God's glory. Amen.

PRAYER

OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM Abby Branson
"O Holy Night"

***DOXOLOGY** UMH #95

***PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

WE GO WITH GOD INTO THE WORLD

***HYMN** UMH #218
"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"

***BENEDICTION**

***AMEN RESPONSE** UMH #898

POSTLUDE

**Please stand as you are able.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Welcome to our worship service this morning. If you are visiting, please complete a visitor's card located in your pew and place it in the offering plate.

The United Women of Faith will have their annual Christmas Program on Thursday, December 15, at 6 pm at Windsor United Methodist Church. Monetary donations will be used to purchase gift cards for Epworth Children's Home. Please bring an appetizer to share and a white elephant gift.

We're having a birthday party for Jesus this Saturday, December 17, at 3:00 pm in the CLC! Contact Rugina Brazell or Tiffany Phillips for more information.

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Wednesday, December 14

10:00 Pastor's Bible Study - Crossroads SS room

5:30 Choir - Choir Room

Thursday, December 15

6:00 United Women of Faith Christmas Program -
Windsor UMC

Saturday, December 17

3:00 Birthday Party for Jesus - CLC

You are welcomed to attend one of our Sunday School groups each Sunday Morning:

Crossroads SS Class meets via Zoom at 9 a.m.
Please contact L.W. Smith for Zoom invite.

Pathfinder SS Class meets at 9:45 a.m. in the parlor located in the Education Building.

Children's SS Class meets at 9:45 am in the Crossroads SS room located in the Education Building.

HEARING INFO

If you would like to use a hearing assistance device, please see an usher for assistance.

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please write your prayer requests in the book found on the podium located at the back of the sanctuary before the service begins. Pastor Meegian will receive these requests and lift them up for prayer during worship.

We are excited to have you in our worship service today. We love that the walls of our building do not limit the impact of our ministry and have a wonderful community joining us today virtually. As such, we would like to remind all in attendance that your presence in our worship service indicates your approval that you and all minors you represent being recorded for our digital usage. This includes, but is not limited to, your image, name, and involvements in today's services.