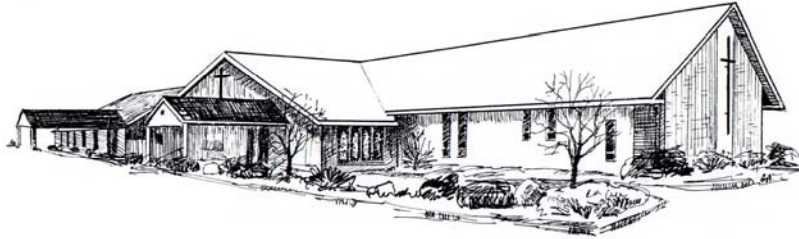


Wesley United Methodist Church



2200 16th Avenue, Sterling, IL

December 13, 2020

ENTRANCE

Fantasia on "The First Noel"

arr. Robert J. Hughes

PRELUDE

INTROIT

"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"

words 14 cent. Latin/Music Germany melody

ANNOUNCEMENTS

† **GATHERING**

We light this candle as a symbol of JOY Jesus Christ brought us. May the light sent from God shine in the darkness to show us the way of salvation. O come, O come, Emmanuel.

LIGHTING THE 3RD CANDLE - JOY

Fitzanko Family

The poet, Mary Oliver, wrote: "If you suddenly and unexpectedly feel joy, don't hesitate. Give in to it...life has some possibility left...Joy is not made to be a crumb." It seemed impossible, but the Israelites returned to their home from exile in Babylon. The prophet Isaiah offered a song of celebration. Come and rejoice! Eat and drink! Get your priorities in order! Can't you see that God is close by? The people rejoiced, amazed to have a second chance. The end of the story has yet to be written. When we light the candle of Joy, we celebrate the One who has come, is coming and will come again.

Whatever we face in life, God will make joy possible.

On this third Sunday in Advent, we light this candle as a symbol of what we are made to enjoy in God; Joy

† **OPENING HYMN**

"Angels We Have Heard on High"

#238 vs. 1,3

JOYS AND CONCERNS

MORNING PRAYERS

The 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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

† RESPONSE "Glory Be to the Father" #70

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

HYMN "What Child Is This?" #219 v.1

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 9:6-7 and Luke 1:26-33
Guest Speaker, Rev. Mike Jones

This is the Word of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

SERMON "Jesus, the Lord, and King"

THANKSGIVING

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

RESPONSE

OFFERING OUR GIFTS AND OUR LIVES

OFFERTORY

† DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow" #95

† PRAYER OF DEDICATION

O Lord, you have done great things for us. As we rejoice in your blessings, let us also rejoice in the opportunity to spread your joy to others through these offerings. May these gifts help transform our community and our world. May they bring your kingdom of justice, that we may all shout with joy! In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

SENDING FORTH

† CLOSING HYMN "Joyful, Joyful We Adore Thee" #89 vs. 1,2

† BENEDICTION

† RECESSIONAL "Joy to the World" #246 v.1

POSTLUDE "*Angels from the Realms of Glory*"
by Hern T. Smart

****Flowers on the altar are given in Loving Memory of Thomas Moe by Jean Moe.****