

WORSHIP HANDOUT
December 12th
Third Sunday of Advent – Joy
Communion
“The Precipice” series



OPENING OF WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Clothing Closet Reopen 9-11

PRELUDE

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT WREATH

*OPENING SONG UMH 213, Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates
(vs. 3 only)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Here, in this place,
we discover the great things God has done.

**In story and song, in silence and sacrament,
we are reminded that God's relationship with us
lasts forever.**

Here, with these people,
we find our true home.
**where we can run home laughing,
after being lost for so long.**

Here, during this holy season,
we hear those promises made so long ago.
**Of the One who repairs all our mistakes,
of the One who reshapes our brokenness.**

— written by Thom Shuman, posted on his [Lectionary Liturgies](#) website.

*HYMN

UMH 202 People, Look East

TIME OF PRAYER

UNISON PRAYER

**The coming of our Lord is near,
And we wait in joyful expectation,
Draw close, Lord Jesus Christ,
Shed your light on all that is filled with darkness.
The coming of our Lord is near,
And we wait with hope filled hearts,
Draw close, God's beloved son,
Teach us the wonder of your all-embracing love.**

~ written by Christine Sine (2012), and posted
on GodSpace. <http://godspace.wordpress.com/2012/12/07/prayers-for-the-journey-advent-prayers-for-the-week/>

SILENT PRAYERS (Music)

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 now and
forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Praise Parent, Son, and Holy Ghost.
Amen.

UNISON PRAYER

Almighty God,
giver of every good and perfect gift,
teach us to give to you all that we have and all that we are,

that we may praise you not with our words only,
but with our whole lives.

HYMN What Child Is This UMH 219 v 3

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Sherry Petkovsek

HYMN TFWWS 2197 Lord of All Hopefulness

LESSON I CEB Philippians 4:4-7

4 Be glad in the Lord always! Again I say, be glad! 5 Let your gentleness show in your treatment of all people. The Lord is near. 6 Don't be anxious about anything; rather, bring up all of your requests to God in your prayers and petitions, along with giving thanks. 7 Then the peace of God that exceeds all understanding will keep your hearts and minds safe in Christ Jesus.

May God add a blessing to this reading.

*LESSON 2 CEB Luke 3:7-18

⁷ Then John said to the crowds who came to be baptized by him, "You children of snakes! Who warned you to escape from the angry judgment that is coming soon? ⁸ Produce fruit that shows you have changed your hearts and lives. And don't even think about saying to yourselves, Abraham is our father. I tell you that God is able to raise up Abraham's children from these stones. ⁹ The ax is already at the root of the trees. Therefore, every tree that doesn't produce good fruit will be chopped down and tossed into the fire."

¹⁰ The crowds asked him, "What then should we do?"

¹¹ He answered, "Whoever has two shirts must share with the one who has none, and whoever has food must do the same."

¹² Even tax collectors came to be baptized. They said to him, “Teacher, what should we do?”

¹³ He replied, “Collect no more than you are authorized to collect.”

¹⁴ Soldiers asked, “What about us? What should we do?”

He answered, “Don’t cheat or harass anyone, and be satisfied with your pay.”

¹⁵ The people were filled with expectation, and everyone wondered whether John might be the Christ. ¹⁶ John replied to them all, “I baptize you with water, but the one who is more powerful than me is coming. I’m not worthy to loosen the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ The shovel he uses to sift the wheat from the husks is in his hands. He will clean out his threshing area and bring the wheat into his barn. But he will burn the husks with a fire that can’t be put out.” ¹⁸ With many other words John appealed to them, proclaiming good news to the people.

L: This is the Word of God for all people.

P: Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

“The Joy of Simplicity”

HYMN W&S 3047 God Almighty, We Are Waiting

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

RESPONSE UMH 204, Emmanuel, Emmanuel

POSTLUDE