

WORSHIP HANDOUT
Sunday December 15th
3rd Sunday of Advent: Joy
In the Beginning

OPENING OF WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

*SONG OF WELCOME Come Thou Long Expected Jesus –
Meredith Andrews Version

*CALL TO WORSHIP

A spark,

Joy flickers into our lives.

A shout,

Joy announces it's presence!

A Song,

Joy moves through our souls and into the world.

OPENING PRAYER

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES - Joy

SONG AS CHILDREN GATHER

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

*HYMN The First Noel UMH 245 vI, Joy to the World UMH 246 vI

TIME OF PRAYER

SILENT AND PASTORAL PRAYER

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.

PRAYER HYMN I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light UMH 206 v 2

LESSON 1 Genesis 1:3-5 CEB

³ God said, "Let there be light." And so light appeared. ⁴ God saw how good the light was. God separated the light from the darkness. ⁵ God named the light Day and the darkness Night. There was evening and there was morning: the first day.

May God add a Blessing to this reading.

*LESSON 2 John 1: 5-11 CEB

The light shines in the darkness,

and the darkness doesn't extinguish the light.

6 A man named John was sent from God. 7 He came as a witness to testify concerning the light, so that through him everyone would believe in the light. 8 He himself wasn't the light, but his mission was to testify concerning the light.

9 The true light that shines on all people was coming into the world.

**10 The light was in the world,
and the world came into being through the light,
but the world didn't recognize the light.**

**11 The light came to his own people,
and his own people didn't welcome him.**

This is the Word of God for all people.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Choir Cantata:

"Jesus Christ: Light to a Darkened World"

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

INVITATION

CONFESSION

In the beginning was the **Word, into the world came the light.**

Yet we tuned out the **Word and tried to turn off the light.**

**Forgive us Lord for the places where we have covered the
lamp and drowned out your whispers.**

PARDON

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

OFFERTORY

*DOXOLOGY

UMH 95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly host,

Praise Father, 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. Amen.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And with your spirit.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks unto the Lord.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Is right...we laud and magnify thy glorious name, evermore praising
thee and saying:

**Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of hosts: Heaven and earth are full
of your glory!**

**Glory be to you, O Lord most high! Blessed is the one who
comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!**

Almighty God...in remembrance of me

BREAKING OF BREAD

PRAYER OF HUMBLE ACCESS

**We do not presume to come to your table, O merciful Lord,
trusting in our own righteousness, but in your manifold and
great mercies.**

**We are not worthy even to gather up the crumbs under your
table. But you are the same Lord, whose property is always to
have mercy.**

**Grant us, therefore, gracious Lord, to partake of this
Sacrament of your Son Jesus Christ, that we may walk in
newness of life, may grow into his likeness, and may evermore
dwell in him, and he in us. Amen.**

RECEIVING COMMUNION

*BENEDICTION

UMH 204 Emmanuel, Emmanuel

POSTLUDE