
Chattanooga Valley Presbyterian Church

Service of Worship¹

Third Sunday of Advent

Sunday, December 14, 2008

** Please stand if you are able.*

Prelude

Greetings & Life of the Church

Meditation

Therefore the LORD waits to be gracious to you, and therefore he exalts himself to show mercy to you.

For the LORD is a God of justice; blessed are all those who wait for him.

For a people shall dwell in Zion, in Jerusalem; you shall weep no more. He will surely be gracious to you at the sound of your cry. As soon as he hears it, he answers you. And though the Lord give you the bread of adversity and the water of affliction, yet your Teacher will not hide himself anymore, but your eyes shall see your Teacher. And your ears shall hear a word behind you, saying, “**This is the way, walk in it,**” when you turn to the right or when you turn to the left. Then you will defile your carved idols overlaid with silver and your gold-plated metal images. You will scatter them as unclean things. You will say to them, “Be gone!”

And he will give rain for the seed with which you sow the ground, and bread, the produce of the ground, which will be rich and plenteous.

-- Isaiah 30:18-23

Lighting the Third Advent Candle

Thomas said to him, “Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?” Jesus said to him, “**I am the way, and the truth, and the life.** No one comes to the Father except through me. If you had known me, you would have known my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.”

Philip said to him, “Lord, show us the Father, and it is enough for us.” Jesus said to him, “Have I been with you so long, and you still do not know me, Philip? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father.

-- John 14:5-9a

Prayer

¹“Worship” is not something that WE initiate; not primarily something that WE do for GOD; rather, God calls us to worship as a means of His grace by which to shape and tune US to declare and display HIS glory in Christ for HIS pleasure and our good.

God Gathers His People ...

With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.

And you will say in that day:

“Give thanks to the LORD, call upon his name,
make known his deeds among the peoples,
proclaim that his name is exalted.

-- Isaiah 12:3,4

** O Come All Ye Faithful*

Insert

** Invocation & Lord's Prayer*

Our Father which art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven:

Give us this day our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors

And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:

For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever.

Amen²

Choral Meditation

The Advent Prayer

God Tunes the Heart of His People ...

... by opening Our Eyes to See Christ Our Savior ...

Leader: How then shall we worship, fellowship, and serve together?

Congregation: So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh; come, peasant, king, to own him; the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him. Raise, raise the song on high, the virgin sings her lullaby: 'Joy, joy for Christ is born, the babe, the son of Mary.'

... resulting in Praise to our God through Christ our Lord

**Joy to the World*

#195

²“Amen” grows from the Hebrew root meaning “true and faithful;” we pray with hope and confidence because our covenant God is “true and faithful” to his covenant promises.

God Teaches His People ...

Scripture Reading

Isaiah 11:1-9

Message

The Promise of Reign

**Angels, We Have Heard on High*

#214

Celebration of Communion

God's People Respond to His Word by Faith...

**Doxology*

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow!

Praise him, all creatures here below!

Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts!

Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost! Amen

We Offer Ourselves & Our Resources to Him

God Sends His People ...

** ... with Rejoicing*

O Come All Ye Faithful (reprise) - Insert

** ... and the Benediction³ of His Grace*

Leader: The LORD bless you and keep you; the LORD make his face shine upon you and be gracious to you; the LORD turn his face toward you and give you peace so that all the peoples may say,

Congregation: "Amen! Our LORD is faithful!" Praise the LORD.

³“Benediction” is the “good Word” of God’s blessing by which He secures, sustains and equips his people by his steadfast, covenantal love in Christ for the display of His glory

