

Christian Service of Worship

Third Sunday of Advent: Joy December 13, 2015 at 10:30 a.m.

**indicates for those who are able to stand*

We Gather Together

Welcome and Announcements Rev. Dr. James Brewer-Calvert

*Passing of the Peace of Christ

(As the risen Christ welcomed his beloved disciples with the greeting, "Peace be with you," let us now turn and receive one another in mutual love.)

Prelude Noel Alsacien A. Guilmant

*Entrance Hymn Good Christian Friends, Rejoice 164

*Responsive Reading Thomas Smith

One: Rejoice in the Lord always!

Many: We rejoice in the God of hope.

One: Rejoice in the Lord always!

Many: We rejoice in the God of peace.

One: Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice!

Many: We rejoice and worship the God of joy. Rejoice! Amen!

*Unison Prayer of Invocation Thomas Smith

God of Advent, what a joy to worship you during this season of anticipation. As we sing your praises, prepare our hearts for the coming of your Son. As we pray and commune with you, ready our spirits to receive the good news of your love and grace in human flesh, whether for the first time or the hundredth. Amen.

*Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen.

Lighting of the Advent Wreath – The Joy Candle Joonna and Rev. Lynn Trapp

Handbell Choir Anthem What Child is This Martha Thompson

We Receive the Word

Lessons from the Holy Scriptures Lynn Trapp

Isaiah 12 (Pew Bible OT Page 641)

Luke 3: 7-18 (Pew Bible NT Page 60)

Philippians 4: 4-7 (Pew Bible NT Page 198)

One: This is the Word of the Lord.

Many: Thanks be to God.

Children's Focus on Faith Rev. Dr. Barbara Sims-King

Children welcome, in the name of Jesus. Children welcome, in the name of love.

All are welcome, in the name of Jesus. All are welcome, in the name of love.

Handbell Choir Anthem O Come, All Ye Faithful Tammy Waldrop

Joys and Concerns for Church and Community Barbara Sims-King

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer Barbara Sims-King

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.

Handbell Choir Anthem Silent Night Sandra Eithun

Dismissal for Children's Church with Rev. Dr. Barbara Sims-King

Sermon "Finding, Following, and Forwarding My Joy" Pastor

Invitation to Discipleship Pastor

(You may join First Christian Church by transfer of membership, confession of faith, or by renewal of the vows of your baptism. Please come forward during the hymn.)

*Hymn of Invitation It Came Upon a Midnight Clear 153

We Respond to the Spirit

Invitation to Faithful Stewardship Ruth Lutz

*Doxology (Hymn of Praise) Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow 46

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts:

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

*Offertory Prayer Ruth Lutz

Choral Anthem Christmas Joy Dan Forrest

Invitation to the Lord's Table Pastor

Prayers for the Bread and Cup Ruth Lutz and Rev. Lynn Trapp

(Christ invites you to partake of Holy Communion. As part of the one body of Christ, we welcome all to the Lord's Table as God has welcomed us. You may partake of the Bread as it is passed and hold the Cup, or you may hold both elements so that we may partake of Holy Communion together.)

Words of Institution 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26

One: For I received from the Lord what I also delivered to you, that the Lord Jesus on the night when He was betrayed took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it, and said,

Many: "This is my body which is for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

One: In the same way also the cup, after supper, saying,

Many: "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

One: For as often as you eat this bread and drink the cup, you proclaim the Lord's death until He comes.

Prayer of Commission and the Lord's Prayer

God our help: We thank you for this supper, shared in the spirit with your son Jesus, who makes us new and strong, who brings us life eternal. We praise you for giving us all good gifts in Him and pledge ourselves to serve you, even as in Christ you have served us.

We Are Led Out By the Spirit

*Hymn of Going Forth	<i>Angels We Have Heard on High</i>	155
*Benediction		Pastor
Postlude	<i>O That Would Be Joyful</i>	Merrell

Welcome home! We are delighted that you are here today. Please fill out the Visitor/Member Card so we may have a record of your participation.

If you wish for a prayer joy or concern to be shared aloud during worship, please complete the back of the card now. Deacons collect prayer cards before our pastoral prayer. If your prayer request is confidential or you simply do not want it shared aloud, you may place your card in the offering plate alongside our collective tithes and offerings. On Monday morning our Prayer Ministry will lift up to God your prayer requests.

We kindly request that, unless you are on-call for professional reasons, all cell phones and electronic devices be turned off during worship. Thank you.

The Holy Scriptures for today may be found printed in the bulletin insert.

Ministers: All the People

Your Church Staff:

The Rev. Dr. James L. Brewer-Calvert,
Senior Pastor
William E. Garner, *Director of Music*
Rev. Barbara Sims-King,
Dir. of Christian Education
Kathy Westbrook, *Church Organist*
Sherry Davis, *Church Administrator*
Ron Smith, *Custodian*

Your Volunteer

Wedding Coordinator:

Diana Blake, *Wedding Coordinator*

Continental Breakfast:

December 13: Yolanda Lewellyn
December 20: Brewer-Calvert
Family
December 27: _____

Third Sunday of Advent: Joy December 13, 2015

Preaching: Rev. Dr. James Brewer-Calvert
Holy Scriptures: Isaiah 12; Luke 3: 7-18; Philippians 4: 4-7
Elders: Ruth Lutz and Lynn Trapp
Deacons: Doug Schuette, Bridgette Boker
Greeters: TBA
Acolyte: Will Kidd

Fourth Sunday of Advent: Love December 20, 2015

Message: *"The Call"* An Original Christmas Pageant
Offered by the Children and Youth of the
Congregation to the Glory of God
Holy Scriptures: Micah 5: 2-5; Psalm 80: 1-7; Hebrews 10:
5-10, Luke 1: 39-45, (46-55)
Elders: Julie Fleming and Yolanda Lewellyn
Deacons: Russell Broomfield and Susan Watts
Greeters: Russell Broomfield, Lee Stanley
Acolyte: Tori Jackson



Welcome Home!

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of Decatur**

(Disciples of Christ)

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Resolve to Love, Agree to Differ, Unite to Serve, Break Bread Together