

Celebration of Worship

3rd Sunday of Advent

Jesus, the Way

December 16, 2018

9:30 A.M.

We welcome you to worship. Nursery and Preschool care is available if you need it. The Young are welcomed to the front early on for a special time in the service. Please sign the Friendship Pads so that we can get to know you better, and join us for coffee in the Narthex after the service.

Thought for Contemplation

“To follow Jesus means that we can’t separate what Jesus is saying from what Jesus is doing and the way he is doing it. To follow Jesus is as much, or maybe even more, about feet as it is about ears and eyes!”

Eugene Peterson, “The Jesus Way”

God Invites Us to Worship

WELCOME

RINGING THE CHURCH BELL

PRELUDE *In Dulci Jubilo* Yon

Flutes: Rachel McKay, Sally Turner, Camryn Zeitvogel, Kristina Zeitvogel

STILLING In silence, ask the Holy Spirit
to help us pay attention and to worship God.

We Offer Praise

WORDS IN PREPARATION *Luke 1:46-55* p. 832

GOD’S PEOPLE PRAY TOGETHER

* Please stand, if you are able.

* HYMN OF WORSHIP & PRAISE *Prepare the Way* # 13

GOD BLESSES US AS WE BEGIN OUR WORSHIP

God Speaks through the Word with a Heart of Love

WORDS FOR THE YOUNG & THE YOUNG AT HEART

We Light the Third Candle of the Advent Wreath

Chris, Laura, Andrew & Maya Blair

MESSAGE *“Follow Me!”*

PRAYER: Jesus, thank you that you love us so much that you are the way – the way to live, the way to love, the way to joy. You are the One we must follow. So help us! Always. We love you. And we thank you with our eyes and ears, hands and feet. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.

Children and Youth are dismissed for Sunday School

PRAYER FOR GOD’S SPIRIT TO MOVE AMONG US

SCRIPTURE LESSON *John 14:1-12* p. 877

Luke 4:14-30 p. 835

SERMON *“Jesus the Way: and Obedience to Follow”*

Rev. Dr. Eileen Borduin Vanderzwan

We Respond in Rededication

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

FORGIVENESS DECLARED

* CAROL *O Come, O Come, Immanuel*

O come, O come, Immanuel, and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.

Refrain: *Rejoice! Rejoice! Immanuel shall come to you, O Israel.*

O come, O wisdom from on high, who ordered all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show, and teach us in its ways to go.

O come, O Key of David, come and open wide our heavenly home.
Make safe for us the heavenward road and bar the way to death’s
abode.

O come, O King of nations, bind in one all hearts of humankind.
Bid all our sad divisions cease and be yourself the Prince of Peace.

OFFERING

OFFERTORY *My Hope Is in You* Schram

Chancel Choir; Allison Payne, violin

PRAYER OF DEDICATION, THANKSGIVING AND PRAISE

THE LORD’S PRAYER (Debts/debtors)

* CAROL *O Holy Night* Back of bulletin

God Sends Us Out to Serve

* ANNOUNCEMENTS

* GOD’S BLESSING AS WE GO OUT TO SERVE

* POSTLUDE *Andante from “Pastorale”* Bach