**Order of Worship**

**December 13, 2020 - Third Sunday in Advent**

**Prelude** Carl Braden

**Welcome and Announcements** Pastor Name

**Introit** “O Come, O Come, Emmanuel” Joe Weir

**Call to Worship** Pastor Name

ONE: The Spirit of the Lord is upon you  
**ALL: The Lord has anointed us.**ONE: God has sent you to bring good news to the oppressed.  
**ALL: We are called to bind up the brokenhearted.**  
ONE: God has sent you to proclaim liberty to the captives and release to the prisoners;  
**ALL: We are called to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor and to** **comfort those who mourn.**  
ONE: Let us worship the Lord God, who will cause righteousness and praise to spring up, before all the nations.

**Hymn No. 98** *“To a Maid Whose Names Was Mary”* Congregation

**Call to Confession**  Pastor Name

ONE: God's promise to us is eternal.  God wishes to bless us with hope, with joy, with life.

**ALL: But our desires lead us to reject God and these blessings.**

ONE: Let us confess how we often choose the path of sin, rather than the joy which will lead us to God's heart.

**Prayer of Confession**

**Creator God, we confess that we have lost sight. We are concerned with what is happening to us now, in this moment, that we forget Your faithfulness throughout the generations. We are worried and hurried about things that in the course of our history will not matter. We are turned inward and have become selfish instead of turning outward and sharing Your Good News.**

**Forgive us for our short-sightedness and selfishness. Forgive us for our outlook of doom and gloom, for fearing death instead of living our life. In this season of Advent, as we look forward to the birth of the Christ-child, renew in us Your life and joy, that we might share it with the world. In the name of Jesus, the light of the world.**

*Silently pray your personal prayers of Confession*

**Assurance of Pardon** Pastor Name

ONE: As we sing in that great carol, “The hopes and fears of all the years Are met in Thee tonight,” we lift up our hopes and fears, knowing that You bear all our burdens. You forgive our sins, make us new, and restore us to life.

**ALL: Guide us in ways that we might rebuild and restore life to this world in Your name. Amen.**

**Peace of Christ** Pastor Name

ONE: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.

The peace of Our Lord, Jesus Christ be with you.

**ALL: And also with you!**

**Children’s Moment** Pastor Name

*Insert the following element only for Baptisms*

**THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM**

*Casey and Jenny Ingram present their son, Douglas James, for baptism*

PRESENTATION

CONGREGATIONAL VOW

RENUNCIATIONS

PROFESSION OF FAITH - The Apostles’ Creed

**ALL: I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth, and in Jesus Christ his only Son our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; he descended into hell; the third day he rose again from the dead; he ascended into heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God the Father Almighty; from thence he shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost; the holy catholic church; the communion of saints; the forgiveness of sins; the resurrection of the body; and the life everlasting. Amen.**

THANKSGIVING OVER WATER

BAPTISM

WELCOME

**ALL: As a family of faith, we affirm the baptism of Douglas James Ingram, and we welcome him into the nurturing care of the body of Christ. Together we promise to support Casey and Jenny in this holy commitment, to surround them with our prayers, and to strengthen them with the love of Jesus Christ.**

*Element End*

**Prayer of Illumination** Pastor Name

**First Scripture Reading** Psalm 126 (NRSV)

1When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion, we were like those who dream.

2Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy; then it was said among the nations, “The Lord has done great things for them.”

3The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.

4Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the Negeb.

5May those who sow in tears reap with shouts of joy.

6Those who go out weeping, bearing the seed for sowing, shall come home with shouts of joy, carrying their sheaves.

**Anthem** *“But Who May Abide the Day of His Coming”* Joe Weir

**Second Scripture Reading** Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 (NRSV) Pastor Name

The spirit of the Lord God is upon me, because the Lord has anointed me; he has sent me to bring good news to the oppressed, to bind up the brokenhearted, to proclaim liberty to the captives, and release to the prisoners; 2to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor, and the day of vengeance of our God; to comfort all who mourn; 3to provide for those who mourn in Zion— to give them a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, the mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit. They will be called oaks of righteousness, the planting of the Lord, to display his glory.

4They shall build up the ancient ruins, they shall raise up the former devastations; they shall repair the ruined cities, the devastations of many generations.

8For I the Lord love justice, I hate robbery and wrongdoing; I will faithfully give them their recompense, and I will make an everlasting covenant with them. 9Their descendants shall be known among the nations, and their offspring among the peoples; all who see them shall acknowledge that they are a people whom the Lord has blessed.

10I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God; for he has clothed me with the garments of salvation, he has covered me with the robe of righteousness, as a bridegroom decks himself with a garland, and as a bride adorns herself with her jewels. 11For as the earth brings forth its shoots, and as a garden causes what is sown in it to spring up, so the Lord God will cause righteousness and praise to spring up before all the nations.

**Sermon** *“Laughter”* Pastor Name

**Offertory** Carl Braden

**Doxology** Joe Weir and Carl Braden

*Insert the following element on First Sunday of Month Only*

**THE SACRAMENT OF THE LORD’S SUPPER**

**Invitation to the Lord’s Table** Pastor Name

**The Great Prayer of Thanksgiving & The Lord’s Prayer (Unison)** Pastor Name

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them up to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

One: We give you thanks, O God…

**ALL: 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 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. Amen.**

**Words of Institution** Pastor Name

**Communion of the People**

**A Prayer After Communion** Pastor Name

*Remove the following element on Communion Sundays*

**Prayers of the People and Lord’s Prayer** Pastor Name

**ALL: 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 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. Amen.**

*Element End*

**Hymn No. 106** *“Prepare the Way, O Zion”* Congregation

**Charge and Benediction** Pastor Name

**Closing Response** *“My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout” – Verse 3* Congregation

**Postlude** Carl Braden