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December 14, 2014

Advent 3

(Portions of the service that are in **BOLD** are to be said by all.
All points marked * those who are able are invited to stand.)

Approach

Gathering Carol – Hymn VU #73 – *“The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy”*

Advent Adventure Continues

Response – (VU #647 - vs. 3) (as children leave for Bible Adventures)

Travel on, travel on, there is a spirit that is playing
The spirit plays like music every day.
Travel on, travel on, with the spirit that is playing,
The spirit will be with us all the way.
Travel on, travel on, with the music that is playing,
The spirit will be with us all the way.


Prayer of Approach and Confession

God of dreams, from ancient times you have surprised your people with great things. You have given us reasons to shout for joy and laugh out loud at our good fortune. We are here today, worshipping and waiting. Often we don't know what to expect from you. Our lives go on as if on auto-pilot. We don't feel a sense of urgency about our faith. We don't act like faith is at any risk of disappearing. But it could. Help us to hear the call to a different way of life. Let us walk to your light and be that light for others. We pray in Jesus' name. AMEN

Assurance of Pardon

* Hymn – VU #5 – *“All Earth is Waiting”*

The Word

 Scripture Readings – Isaiah 61: 1-4, 9-11
John 1: 6-8, 19-27

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.
THANKS BE TO GOD!

Meditation

(a quiet time for your personal reflection and prayer)

Anthem – “Every Valley”

The Response

Announcements

- * Offering / Response (tune VU #84 vs. 4)
O Light of Nations, fill the earth;
Our faith and hope and love renew.
Come, lead the peoples to your peace,
As stars once led the way to you.

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

- * Hymn – VU #35 – *“Good Christian Friends, Rejoice”*

Candle Lighting / Benediction

- * Benediction / Response
Joy is a candle on our journey.
Joy is the swinging and the leap!
Under the clouded skies of winter,
This laughing flame of Joy we'll keep.
For we are a people of a Story,
Of stars that sing and Love that cries.
And though these nights are getting longer,
The path is lit before our eyes,
For joy....

Rev. Dr. Sharon Wilson, Minister
Luci Toews, Church Administrator
Myrna Hagues, Organist
Pat Dumont, Liturgist

Patrick Woodbeck, Associate Minister
Laura Steidl, Music Director
Jessica Steidl, Joyful Noise Director
Gina Grant, Custodian

Douglas Gauthier & Gloria Waldron, Nursery Care Givers

Ushers: Dorothy Talman & Bob Galston
Greeters: Mona Gibbons and Kal Kneeshaw