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1062 Autumnwood Drive, Wpg, MB, R2J 1C7

December 13, 2015

3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent

(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 Carols VU #55 – *“In the Bleak Midwinter”*

VU #48 – *“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”*

Call to Worship

One: It is all about a story and a promise.

**All: We want to hear the good news.**

One: It's about words and a story passed on faithfully from generation to generation.

**All: We are here to worship because the story has touched us and changed us.**

Discovering the Family of Jesus

Presentation of White Gifts

Bible Adventures – *“Christmastime is Coming”*

Lighting the Third Advent Candle

\* Hymn VU #29 – *“Hark the Glad Sound”*

(Children leave for Bible Adventures)

Prayer of Approach and Confession

**As people of faith, we are sometimes called people of the word. With our own words, we come to you in prayer, wise God. We offer our thanks for gathering us together as a family in this church. With words of joy we sing songs of praise. With the words of scripture we weave your story of justice and mercy and grace into our very lives.**

**While we celebrate your story in one moment, we can ignore it the next. We pick and choose when we will listen to your words and when we defy you. In spite of everything we have been told, we hurt and we oppress and we do all sorts of things we know to be wrong and unkind.**

**Help us to understand the power of our words and how important it is to share them. Forgive us if we ever keep your story to ourselves as if it is ours alone. Allow us to convey the great truth of your love as faithfully as the prophets and apostles and believers have done before us. We pray in Jesus' name. AMEN**

Assurance of Pardon

## The Word

📖 Scripture Readings – Zephaniah 3: 14-20  
Luke 3: 7-18

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

**THANKS BE TO GOD!**

\* Hymn VU #27 – *“Tomorrow Christ is Coming”*

Meditation – **“The power of words.”**

(a quiet time for your personal reflection and prayer)

Anthem – *“Prepare the Way, O Zion”*

## The Response

Announcements

\* Offering / Response

**My soul is filled with joy**

**As I sing to God my saviour:**

**You have looked upon your servant,**

**You have visited your people.**

**And holy is your name**

**Through all generations.**

**Everlasting is your mercy**

**To the people you have chosen.**

**And holy is your name.**

Pastoral Prayer and The Lord's Prayer

\* Hymn VU #59 – *“Joy to the World”*

Benediction / Response

**A prophet's words shared long ago**

**Remind us that God guides each day;**

**Amid new journeys we shall take**

**We'll find our path, locate God's way**

**That leads us to a treasured birth:**

**God's promised gift of such great worth.**

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Rev. Dr. Sharon Wilson, Minister

Patrick Woodbeck, Associate Minister

Luci Toews, Church Administrator

Laura Steidl, Music Director

Myrna Hagues, Organist

Jessica Steidl & Alex Czehryn, Joyful Noise

Dorothy Talman, Liturgist

Gina Grant, Custodian

Douglas Gauthier & Gloria Waldron, Nursery Care Givers