

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

IT IS CHRISTMAS SWEATER NIGHT at our next Prayer Meeting/ Bible Study held December 20th at 6:30, Wear your Christmas Sweater – both pretty ones and ugly ones are encouraged!

DONATIONS FOR THE LOTTIE MOON CHRISTMAS OFFERING are \$1742 thus far. We are well on our way to our goal of \$2500. Praise God!

WE ARE INVITED to be Salvation Army Bell Ringers this holiday season. Bell ringers are needed through Dec 23 for 2-hour shifts. There will be no bell ringing on ANY Sundays. Please call the Salvation Army if interested: 642-3443.

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Advent Wreath Lighting (3rd Sunday in Advent)

Deacon: Amy Boykin

Deacon: Today is the third Sunday of Advent. Advent is a time of waiting. We wait for God to send divine love and light into our dark world.

Congregation: How does this happen?

Deacon: God's light comes through Jesus, who became a human being just like you and me, so that he could show us the way back to God's divine love and light.

All: "Stir up your power, O Lord, and with great might come among us. Let your bountiful grace and mercy speedily help and deliver us, through Jesus Christ our Lord."

Deacon: A reading from the prophet Zephaniah: "In that day it shall be said to Jerusalem, Fear thou not: and to Zion, Let not thine hands be slack. The LORD thy God in the midst of thee is mighty; he will save, he will rejoice over thee with joy; he will rest in his love, he will joy over thee with singing." (**Zephaniah 3:16-17**).

Congregation: We continue to wait for the coming of Jesus. Last Sunday, we began in the dark, and then we lit two candles. Today, on the third Sunday of Advent, we light three candles of **HOPE, PEACE, and JOY**.

First, second, and third candles are lit. (PINK and 2 PURPLES)

Deacon: Every week in Advent, we light another candle. Each candle that we light reminds us that the Light of the World will soon come to us in the human form of the baby Jesus, the Messiah who will show us the way back to God.

All: The Messiah is on the way to us. As we prepare for his coming, may we repent of our sins. May we remember our baptisms with water. May we be ready to be baptized with God's Holy Spirit and fire. May we be ready to help our Lord proclaim the good news of God's love to all people so that the world will be filled with joy. Amen.

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Cantata—December 17, 2017

**“Night Of The Father’s Love—
The Awe And Mystery Of God With Us”**
By Pepper Choplin

Pianist Alyssa Owens
Organist Barbara Stevens
Narrators Barry Milligan, Sonya Anthony, Amy Boykin
Director Margaret Sarratori

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“The Coming of the Lord”
Duet—Ann Hogge, Connie Stewart

“Waiting”

“Angels Are Making Their Rounds”
Descant—Alice Deal, Janie Conkling

“Night of the Father’s Love”

“The Shepherd’s Song”

“Seeking the King”
Solo—David Crummett

“Fall on Your Knees”

“Christ is Born, Nowell!”



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