3rd Sunday in Advent

Pauline Littell: 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.

ALL: How does this happen?

Pauline Littell: 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."

Pauline Littell: 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**).

ALL: 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.

Deacon Family Member <u>Jodi Lane</u> (Lighting of the Candles) (Lighting 1 Pink Candle AND 2 Purple Candles) ...

Pauline Littell: 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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

2019 ADVENT DEVOTIONAL BOOKLETS

The 2019 Advent Devotional Booklets are available in the Narthex. Please take only one per family. This year we are continuing our 60th Anniversary by reflecting on "Voices of Advent" written over the years by church members. A special thank you to Lynn Walton for typing the devotionals.~~Advent Devotional Committee

VISION AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please note that **Vision** articles, as well as, **Announcements** for December 22, December 29 and January 5, 2020 will be **due by tomorrow, December 16, 2019.**

CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE

Invite your family and friends to join us for a beautiful candlelight Christmas Eve service on Tuesday, **December 24, 2019**, at 5pm. There will be Christmas Music, Scriptures, and the Lord's Supper!!

OPERATION CHRISTMAS CHILD

WMU thanks you!! The church collected 98 boxes!! Please continue to pray for your Operation Christmas Child Boxes. Merry Christmas from the WMU!!



G.U.E.S.T. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

<u>Gloucester Point Baptist Church will host GUEST the week of</u> January 6 thru January 13th

You can help in 3 different ways:

Volunteer for a shift from 6-11PM, 11PM – 5 AM or 5-7 AM., Hold a 1/2-1hour Bible study one night or Bring in and donate some items (paper products etc.) (there is a sign up sheet in the Narthex.)

Upcoming training sessions:

ABINGDON EPISCOPAL CHURCH Sunday, Dec. 15, 4:00 pm

<u>GLOUCESTER POINT BAPTIST CHURCH</u> Sunday, Jan.5, 2020, 4:00 pm

GPBC Site Coordinators will be Kristi and David Patton

Please call Pauline Littell 804-815-8030 or Ted Fisher 757-870-4156 for more information

Christmas BEGINS WITH