

**Peace United Church of Church
Second Sunday of Advent
December 15th, 2024
10:30am**



Mama Mary, Papa Joseph, Baby Jesus, Amanda McElray Hunter

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Prelude

by our youth

Welcome and Announcements

Ringling of the Bells

*Call to Worship

from *Philippians 4:4-7*

Rejoice in the Lord always,

Again we say, Rejoice!

Let your gentleness be known to everyone, the Lord is near.

Again we say, Rejoice!

Do not dwell in anxiety, but bring your concern and your thanks to God.

Again we say, Rejoice!

And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard our hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.

Rejoice! Let us worship God.

*Lighting the Third Advent Candle

Molly, Lauren, & Elena Nett

Introit

This joy I have, the world didn't give it to me,

This joy I have, the world didn't give it to me,

This joy I have, the world didn't give it to me,

No, the world didn't give it, the world can't take it away.

Reader: Today is the third Sunday of Advent. Today we light the candle of joy, the pink candle on our Advent wreath. There are so many ways to practice joy. Singing, dancing, painting with bright colors. Hanging Christmas lights and showing up for our community. Stopping to gaze at a star filled sky. Listening to waves crashing against the beach. Taking time to marvel at all the gifts of God's creation.

Song

This joy I have, the world didn't give it to me,

This joy I have, the world didn't give it to me,

This joy I have, the world didn't give it to me,

No, the world didn't give it, the world can't take it away.

*Passing of the Peace

The ABC Christmas Party Pageant

Introduction

O Little Town of Bethlehem #99 Red Hymnal

O Little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie!

Above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by;

Yet in the dark streets shineth the everlasting Light;

The hopes and fear of all the years are met in thee tonight.

For Christ is born of Mary, and gathered all above,

While mortals sleep, the angels keep their watch of wondering love.

O morning stars, together proclaim the holy birth!

And praises sing to God the King, and peace to men on earth.

How silently, how silently, the wondrous gift is given!

So God imparts to human hearts the blessings of his heav'n.

No ear may hear his coming, but in the world of sin,

Where meek souls will receive him, still the dear Christ enters in.

O holy Child of Bethlehem! Descend to us, we pray;

Cast out our sin and enter in; Be born in us today.

We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell;

O come to us, abide with us, Our Lord Emmanuel!

Mary & Joseph Journey to Bethlehem

Jesus, Our Brother

#138 NCH

**Jesus, our brother, strong and good,
was humbly born in a stable rude,
and the friendly beasts around him stood,
Jesus our brother, strong and good.**

**"I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown,
"I carried your mother uphill and down,
I carried your mother to Bethlehem town;
I," said the donkey, shaggy and brown.**

**"I," said the cow, all white and red,
"I gave you my manger for your bed,
I gave my hay to pillow your head;
I," said the cow, all white and red.**

**"I," said the sheep with curly horn,
"I gave you my wool for a blanket warm,
you wore my coat on Christmas morn;
I," said the sheep with curly horn.**

**"I," said the dove, from the rafters high,
"I cooed you to sleep that you should not cry,
we cooed you to sleep, my love and I;
I," said the dove, from the rafters high.**

Jesus is Born

Away in a Manger

#93 Red Hymnal

**Away in a manger, no crib for a bed,
The little Lord Jesus laid down his sweet head.
The stars in the night sky looked down where he lay,
And little Lord Jesus, asleep on the Hay.**

**The cattle are lowing, the baby awakes,
But little Lord Jesus no crying he makes.
I love thee, Lord Jesus! Look down from the sky,
And stay by my side until morning is nigh.**

Offertory

We Are Home, Future of Forestry

Ian Connell,

Saul Connell-David, Thea (Cricket) Connell-David,
Sophia Farell, and Henry Farell

*Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God all creatures here below,
Praise God above ye heavenly host,
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen!**

Prayers of the People & Prayer of Jesus

**Our Father and Mother, 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, the power, and the glory, forever and
ever. Amen.**

The Shepherds

Still, Still, Still

**Still, still, still
One can hear the falling snow
For all is hushed, the world is sleeping**

**Holy star its vigil keeping
Still, still, still
One can hear the falling snow
Sleep, sleep, sleep
'Tis the eve of our savior's birth
The night is peaceful all around you
Close your eyes, let sleep surround you
Sleep, sleep, sleep
'Tis the eve of our savior's birth
Dream, dream, dream
Of the joyous day to come
While guardian angels without number
Watch you as you sweetly slumber
Dream, dream, dream
Of the joyous day to come
Dream, dream, dream
Of the joyous day to come
Still, still, still
One can hear the falling snow**

The Choir of Angels

The Lone, Wild Bird #31 P&W

**The lone, wild bird in lofty flight
is still with you, nor leaves your sight.
And I am yours! I rest in you,
Great Spirit, come, and rest in me.**

**The ends of earth are in your hand,
the sea's dark deep and far off land.
And I am yours! I rest in you,
Great Spirit, come, rest in me.**

Conclusion

***Joy to the World**

#313 Red Hymnal

**Joy to the world! the Lord is come: Let earth receive her king;
Let ev'ry heart prepare him room, And heav'n and nature sing,
And heav'n and nature sing, And heav'n and heav'n and nature sing.**

**Joy to the earth! the Savior reigns: Let men their songs employ;
While fields and floods, rocks hills, and plains, Repeat the sounding joy,
Repeat the sounding joy, Repeat, repeat the sounding joy.**

**He rules the world with truth and grace, And makes the nation prove
The glories of his righteousness, And wonders of his love,
And wonders of his love, And wonders, wonders of his love.**

*Benediction

*Postlude

Assisting in Today's Service:
Warren Post and Pam Kramer, Ushers
Cindy Macaulay, Greeter

Actors in this morning's pageant:

Chloe Bittner, Lucy Bittner, Lachlan Buxbaum-Grgas, Luka Buxbaum Grgas, Margo Byrne, Thea (Cricket) Connell, Tova Ellison, Rowan Ellison, Phoebe Ellis, Hugh Fifield, Kieran Hunter, Axel Johnson, Grace Johnson, Sage Johnson, Frances Langer, Elena Nett, Lauren Nett, Allyna Ramsey, Gary Ramsey, Riley Ramsey, Silvee Romberg, Solleil Romberg.

Adult helpers:

Joy Bittner, Kelly Buxbaum-Grgas, Amanda Byrne, Katey Fornear, Carol Johnson, Pat Nelson, Molly Net, Diane Swanoski and many parents!