

Waupun United Methodist Church
December 17, 2023
Sunday worship – 9:00 a.m.



ADVENT SERMON SERIES

**Welcome to worship.
May you find the presence of God wherever you are.**

At the * sign, please stand as you are able.

Bold print = Congregational response

Prelude

Welcome

Musical Call to Worship

Lighting of the Advent Wreath Candles –

(Two purple candles and one pink candle are lit on the Advent wreath.)

Today we light the third Advent candle, the candle of joy. When Mary, the mother of our Lord, visited her kinswoman Elizabeth, Elizabeth's unborn son John leaped for joy at the sound of Mary's greeting. Elizabeth was filled with joy, knowing that the promised Messiah would soon be born. We, too, rejoice as we prepare to celebrate our Savior's birth.

We will rejoice in the Lord, now and forever!

The prophet Isaiah foretold a highway, the Way of Holiness, a place where the redeemed would walk. Following that holy Way, the redeemed would live in the presence of God and know everlasting joy. Jesus is the Way, the Truth and the Life.

We will rejoice in the Lord, now and forever!

***Opening Hymn Red #213 on screen “Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates”**

***Opening Prayer**

Almighty God, your servant Elizabeth and her unborn son, the prophet John, rejoiced at the greeting of Mary, the mother of our Lord. We give you praise and thanks for the many earthly joys of this Advent season, but above all, we praise you for the gift of your Son, our Lord Jesus Christ. By your grace, through faith in Jesus, we share the joy of Elizabeth and John. We know joy in our Lord right now and will rejoice in his presence for all eternity. Lead us to share this joy with others through acts of love and service and through our witness to our Savior. We pray that by the power of your Spirit, they, too, will come to rejoice in Jesus. Hear our prayer and accept our praise in Jesus' name. Amen..

Children's Message

“Exciting, joyful promise!”

Bible Reading

on screen

Isaiah 35:1-10

Hymn

Red #210

on screen

“Toda la Tierra”

Bible Reading

on screen

Philippians 4:4-7

Video Proclamation

“How Great Our Joy”

Bible Reading

on screen

Luke 1:39-45

In those days Mary arose and went with haste into the hill country, to a town in Judah, and she entered the house of Zechariah and greeted Elizabeth. And when Elizabeth heard the greeting of Mary, the baby leaped in her womb. And Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit, and she exclaimed with a loud cry, “Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the fruit of your womb! And why is this granted to me that the mother of my Lord should come to me?

For behold, when the sound of your greeting came to my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. And blessed is she who believed that there would be a fulfillment of what was spoken to her from the Lord.”

Song Response

on screen

“Amazing Grace (My Chains Are Gone)”

Pastor's Message

“Joy in the Light of Grace: Elizabeth”

Tithes and Offerings

***Song of Thanksgiving**

Black #2036

on screen

“Give Thanks”

***Prayer of Dedication**

Prayers of the People
Joys, Praise and Concerns
Pastoral Prayer
The Lord's Prayer

Announcements

***Closing Hymn** **Red #246** **on screen** **“Joy to the World”**

***Blessing/Dismissal**

Therefore, since we have been justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Through him we have also obtained access by faith into this grace in which we stand, and we rejoice in hope of the glory of God.

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that by the power of the Holy Spirit you may abound in hope.

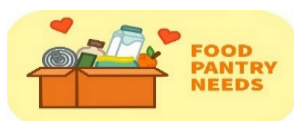
Amen.

Today's Worship Ministers:	All of us - wherever we are
Tech Operators:	Brady Bronson and Val Dolgner
Pianist:	Sue Rens Guell
Worship Leader/Preacher:	Pastor Steve Miller
Counters:	Deb White and Jeanne Ludjack

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today, Sunday, December 17: Confirmation – after worship

Next Sunday, December 24: Christmas Eve worship – 4:30 pm



December – Monetary gift or Personal Care items
January - Pasta

INTENSIVE PRAYER


Phil Ruck Mike Duer Joyce Brown Tammy Kasuboski
Bob Bradley Ray Dolgner Ryan Giese Jerry Kok
Dolores Good Marion Dolgner The Confirmation class
Those impacted by war in Ukraine For peace in the Mideast

Remember our homebound:

Hillside Manor, Beaver Dam: Joyce Berry

Prairie Place, Ripon: Elaine Stanton

Prairie Ridge, Waupun: June Witowich, Alice Chase, Betty Buchholz, Phyllis McDowell

<p>Waupun United Methodist Church Church phone: 920-324-9721 Church website: waupunumc.com Church e-mail: waupunumc@gmail.com Pastor's e-mail: waupunumpastor2019@gmail.com Pastor's Cell Phone: 608-697-9045 Church Facebook page: United Methodist Church-Waupun</p>	
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