



The Inn: Housing the Holy
3rd Sunday of Advent
December 12, 2021

NEW COVENANT
 United Methodist Church
 Sunnyvale, Texas

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| Prelude | | Cathy Wheeler |
| Welcome & Announcements | | Rev. Dana Norton |
| Call to Worship | Hope Waits For Us At Advent, v.3 | Rev. Norton |
| Advent Wreath | <i>Joy waits...</i> | Cindy & Dale Wolfe |
| Responsive Call | | Rev. Norton |
| **Invitation to the Holy Spirit | Surely the Presence | |
| **Invocation | | Rev. Norton |
| **Opening Hymn | #3128 Whatever You Do | |
| Prayer of Confession | | Rev. Norton |
| Assurance of Pardon | | Rev. Norton |
| **Gloria Patri | | |
| Prayer of Illumination | | Rev. Norton |
| Scriptures | Isaiah 12:2-6 Philippians 4:4-7 | Linda Easton |
| Special Music | Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice <i>Carl Daw/David White</i> | Robert A., Sarah R., & Cathy |
| **Scripture | Luke 3:7-18 | Rev. Norton |
| Sermon | "How Much is Enough" | Rev. Norton |
| Prayer Song | Make of My Heart a Stable | |
| Prayers of the People | <i>With a time for prayer concerns</i> | Rev. Norton |
| Lord's Prayer | | |
| Holy Communion | | Rev. Norton |
| Prayer of Thanksgiving | | Rev. Norton |
| Offertory | | Rev. Norton |
| **Closing Hymn | #219 What Child Is This (with extra verse) | |
| **Benediction | | Rev. Norton |
| Response | #204 Emmanuel, Emmanuel | |
| Postlude | | Cathy Wheeler |

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| NEW COVENANT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH | |
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| ** Signifies times when we invite you to stand as the Holy Spirit leads you | |

Birthdays This Week

| Name | Date | Name | Date |
|---------------|-------------|------------|-------------|
| John Anderson | December 15 | Mark Young | December 17 |
| Marie Gbaya | December 17 | | |

Call to Worship – Hope Waits For Us At Advent

**3. Joy waits for us at Advent. Joy waits for us to sing.
Joy waits for our amazement at the grace in everything.
In this time of preparation for the work of co-creation,
for the birthing of a world where wonder is restored.
Joy is born in us once more!**

Responsive Call

The Joy of Christ be with you!
And also with you!

Invitation to the Holy Spirit:

Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place;
I can feel his mighty power and his grace.
I can hear the brush of angels' wings, I see glory on each face;
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place.

#3128: Whatever You Do

**1. “Whatever you do to the least ones of these,
I tell you in truth that you do unto me!”
Lord Jesus, you taught us! May we learn anew
that when we serve others, we also serve you.**

**2. When poor, waiting children pray hunger will end,
when those long-forgotten cry out for a friend,
when thirsty ones whisper, “O Lord, where are you?”
we hear, in their longing, that you’re calling, too.**

**3. In prisons and jails, Lord, we find a surprise:
we see you in people whom others despise.
At hospital bedsides we offer a prayer
and find, when we visit the sick you are there.**

**4. When we reach to others in flood-stricken lands
and offer our hearts there, and offer our hands,
we notice, Lord Jesus, the gift of your grace;
we see, in the crowds of the suffering, your face.**

**5. “Lord, when did we see you?” Your teaching is clear
that when we serve others, we’re serving you here.
And when your church heeds you and helps those in pain,
then out of the chaos, hope rises again.**

Prayer of Confession

When Mary and Joseph arrived in Bethlehem they found there was no room.

We confess that in the midst of all our anxieties we have not made room in our hearts for others.

We confess that, paralyzed by fear, prejudice or apathy we have not made room in our homes for the stranger.

We confess that, forgetting the welcome we have been shown, we have not made room in your church for those who are different from us.

We confess that in the busyness of Christmas time we have not made room in our lives for you.

Gracious God, forgive us and renew us.

Use this advent time to break open our hearts, throw open the doors, open our eyes to your presence and open our arms wide to welcome you, as we offer to you in silence the confession we most want to hide.

Silence

#70 Gloria Patri:

**Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end.**

Amen. Amen.

Prayer Song: Make of My Heart a Stable

**1. Make of my heart a stable, a house for the holy,
a warm and sturdy place for [joy] to live and grow.**

**2. Make of my life a stable, a house for the holy,
a warm and sturdy place for [joy] to live and grow.**

**3. Make of our church a stable, a house for the holy,
a warm and sturdy place for [joy] to live and grow.**

Lord's Prayer:

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name,
kingdom come, will be done, earth as it is in heaven.**

Give us this day our daily bread.

Forgive us our trespasses, we forgive those who trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation, deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory.

Amen.

Holy Communion

The Lord be with you. **And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **We lift them up to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God. **It is right to give our thanks and praise....**

....And so with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

....And so, in remembrance of these your mighty acts in Jesus Christ, we offer ourselves in praise and thanksgiving as a holy and living sacrifice, in union with Christ's offering for us, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

....Through your Son Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit in your holy church, all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and forever.

Amen. Amen. Amen.

Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest. Hosanna in the highest.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

We give you thanks, most gracious God, for allowing us to share in this feast as your family and to be fed with the bread of heaven; give us grace that we all may grow in joy, glorifying you in all things, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

#219: What Child is This (with extra verse)

1. What child is this who, laid to rest, on Mary' lap is sleeping?

Whom angels greet with anthems sweet, while shepherds watch are keeping?

**This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.**

2. Why lies he in such mean estate where ox and ass are feeding?

Good Christians, fear, for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.

**This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.**

3. So bring him incense, gold, and myrrh, come peasant, king, to own him;

the King of kings salvation brings, let loving hearts enthrone him.

**This, this is Christ the King, whom shepherds guard and angels sing;
haste, haste to bring him laud, the babe, the son of Mary.**

Extra Verse: Why lies He in such mean estate, where ox and ass are feeding?

Good Christian, fear: for sinners here the silent Word is pleading.

**Nails, spear, shall pierce him through; the cross be borne for me, for you
Hail, hail, the Word made flesh, the babe, the son of Mary.**

#204 Emmanuel, Emmanuel

Emmanuel, Emmanuel, his name is called Emmanuel.

God with us, revealed in us, his name is called Emmanuel.

(Sung Twice)