

Woodbury United Methodist Church



Sunday December 17, 2023

10:30 AM Worship

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Third Sunday of Advent

*Please stand as you are able.

WE COME TOGETHER IN PRAISE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Noel

Matt Redman

SarahKate Walkup

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Joann King, Liturgist

Leader: The Spirit and the Church cry out:

People: Come, Lord Jesus!

Leader: As farmers wait for rainfall
and prisoners wait for freedom,

People: We wait for the coming of God.

Leader: As exiles yearn for home

and peacemakers yearn for justice,

People: We wait for the coming of God

Leader: As travelers search for shelter

and disciples look for answers,

People: We wait for the coming of God.

Leader: The whole creation pleads:

People: Come, Lord Jesus!

*OPENING HYMN *Angels from the Realms of Glory* UMH 220

OPENING PRAYER

LIGHTING OF THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE: **JOY**

Catherine Mason, Mary Grace, Elizabeth Styblo

Christ came bringing good news for all the world.

New light and new life were born among us.

Christ will come at Christmas

to be born within us anew, making the darkest places bright.

Christ will come again, in final victory.

He will come in power and glory to usher in his kingdom.

The past two Sundays we lit the candles of hope and peace.

Today we light the candle of joy.

We find joy in the gift of a new day.

We rejoice in God's unfailing love

Joyfully with give and joyfully we receive.

We find joy in the truth of what God has already done

and in the anticipation of what is to come

**May God fill us with joy, restore our faded paradise, and bring
creation's second birth. Come, Lord Jesus!**

(A candle is lit)

*ADVENT CAROL

Light the Candle (v. 3)

WE LISTEN FOR THE WORD OF GOD

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

Following each lesson is said:

This Scripture is the feast of Wisdom

Thanks be to God.

*HYMN OF PREPARATION *There's a Song in the Air* UMH 249

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING John 1:6-8, 19-28

SERMON

Rev. Herb Miller

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Following each prayer is said:

Lord Jesus,

Come soon

THE LORDS PRAYER

**Our Father, 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 trespasses as we forgive those
who trespass against us; lead us not into temptation, but deliver us
from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory
forever. Amen.**

