



Third Sunday of Advent
December 14, 2025

Preaching
Alex Sider

Worship Leader
Darryl Nester

Pianist/Organist
LuAnn Stuckey

Gathering

Music Calls Us to Worship

Welcome, Announcements, Centering

Advent Candle Lighting and Litany Adam, Sarah & Carter Phillips

One: We have been wandering in the dark, cold desert of grief and despair,
and we feel heavy, dry and lifeless.

Many: Come, Joy of the world. Come amaze us.

All: May your joy water our thirsty souls, that we may become your
fountains of joy, freely sharing your joy with the world.

Prelude Here We Come A-Wassailing arr. Luther Henderson
Brass Ensemble

Invocation

*Opening Hymn Comfort, Comfort, O My People VT 212

*Responsive Reading – Based on Isaiah 55:1-13

One: Come, all who hunger and thirst for more—God calls us to the feast!

Many: We are weary exiles, longing for home, caught in a world that drains
our hope.

One: “Listen, so that you may live! My covenant is everlasting, my promise sure.”

Many: Can joy reach us here, in this place of waiting?

One: God’s vision is higher than the heavens, stretching beyond what we can see.

Many: The invitation is for all people, from the farthest reaches of the earth.

One: The word of the Lord does not return empty—it brings forth life!

Many: The mountains and the hills will burst into song, the trees of the field
will clap their hands!

All: You are the source of true joy, O God. You expand our vision, lifting our
eyes beyond the moment, beyond despair, into amazement. We stand
before you, ready to enter your story and be amazed.

Telling God’s Story

Special Music Ding Dong! Merrily On High arr. Luther Henderson
Brass Ensemble

Conversation with Children Jeff Gundy & Tim Byers
VT 211

Love Is a Candle
v. 3 Coming forward and returning to seats

Special Music One Simple Candle Burdette/Butler
Jubilate; Laura Hartzler, director

Community Prayer Carrie Mast
The Lord’s Prayer James W. Bixel
back cover of HWB

Scripture Isaiah 55:1-13 Melissa Friesen &
Jori Mast

Message Joy That Finds Us

Living God’s Story

*Hymn of Response I Sought the Lord VT 161

Offering
Invitation
Offertory Comfort, Comfort Ye My People K.T. Kosche
Prayer of Dedication

Sending

*Hymn of Sending Oh, How Shall I Receive Thee VT 215

*Benediction

*Postlude Savior of the Nations, Come A.N. Vetter

*Please rise in body or in spirit
VT: Voices Together (Purple Bound Book) ♪ : Favorite Hymn

Parents of young children: God put the wiggle in children, so no need to suppress those wiggles.

Sitting closer to the front makes it easier for your little ones to engage.

Also, children learn their behavior by mimicking you. Sing the hymns, pray, and voice the responses.

Feel free to leave the sanctuary with your child, but you’re welcome to come back.

As Jesus said, “Let the children come to me.”