

BLUFF POINT UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
DECEMBER 15, 2013
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
JOY

WELCOME AND GREETING

ORGAN PRELUDE/CANDLE LIGHTING

***SONG OF PRAISE - #204 "Emmanuel"**

LIGHTING OF THIRD ADVENT CANDLE – JOY

P.Let us light this third candle of Advent, a candle of Joy. In its light, let us turn our worries into prayers for God to be present to us right now, as we prepare for the coming of Christ. Let this candle of Advent Joy. Shine in our hearts all week to remind us to pray and praise and place Christ at the center this season. Amen

ADVENT CAROL - #2090 Light the Advent Candle vs.3

***CALL TO WORSHIP –**

L. Leave your exile behind; God is calling us home.

P. We'll follow the Way through the desert.

L. Enter the desert without fear; God's water will quench our thirst,

P. We'll walk the Highway of God's people.

L. Travel the Highway with joy; God is leading to life in abundance.

P. We'll strengthen weak hands, and support feeble knees;

We'll encourage the fearful and calm the anxious:

Rejoice! Be strong! God is with us!

L. Come, let us worship!

CONGREGATION PRAYER:

O God, we come today echoing John the Baptist's question to your Beloved Child:

"Are you the one who is to come?"

Give us eyes to see and ears to hear the answer for ourselves:

In the work of justice: Christ!

In the practice of mercy: Christ!

In good news for the poor: Christ!

In the vision of peace: Christ!

Make us ready, with open hearts and joyful spirits, to follow in Christ's Way. Amen..

***SHARING OF THE PEACE** - Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation and love.

***HYMN OF PRAISE: #211 "O Come, O Come Emmanuel"**

CHORAL ANTHEM: ""

CHILDREN'S TIME

PRAYER HYMN - #217 "Away In the Manger, vs.3"

PASTORAL PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER

SCRIPTURE - Isaiah 35:1-10(p.663,OT);Matt.11:2-11(p.11,NT)

SERMON -" Be Strong, Do Not Fear" Rev. Judy D White

***OFFERTORY**

***DOXOLOGY:** Hymnal, #95

With these gifts, dear God, accept the praise and thanksgiving of our hearts, which rejoice in your goodness and love.

The day of rejoicing is coming, the prophet Isaiah says, and we await it together; our gifts today in this season of waiting and hope help us to strengthen one another and to offer hope to the world as we look forward to that great day of everlasting joy.

***HYMN OF DEDICATION #224 "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"**

***BENEDICTION -**

In the practice of mercy: Christ!

In good news for the poor: Christ!

In the vision of peace: Christ!

Amen! Thanks be to God!

#251 "Go Tell It On the Mountain" (chorus only)

POSTLUDE

***All who are willing and able, please stand**

SERVING CHRIST THIS WEEK

Organist: Cindy Heggie
Choir Director: Aimee Perry
Liturgist: Ron Salyer
Greeters: Ed and Sally Head
Ushers: Dana and Helen Schillinger
Scripture Reader: Stacy Wyant
Fellowship: Bev Dean, Ron Sergent and Waneta Nielsen
Sunday School: Carole Clow
Nursery: Blanche Fingar and Jessica Kenneda
Counters: Bill Sutherland and Elly Stempien

SERVING NEXT WEEK: (12/22/13)

Organist: Cindy Heggie
Choir Director: Aimee Perry
Liturgist: Ron Salyer
Greeters: Jacob DeMay and Dameyon Miller-Cotten
Ushers: Ryan and Hayley Andersen
Scripture Reader: Elly Stempien
Fellowship: Helen and Dana Schillinger
Sunday School: No Sunday School today
Nursery: Chris and Stacy Wyant
Counters: Ron Salyer and Ed Head

This Week Schedule:

Tues. UMW luncheon, Noon at Antique Inn
Choir Rehearsal, Tues. 7pm
NO BIBLE STUDY ON Wed. UNTIL JAN. 8TH.

DATES TO MARK ON YOUR CALENDAR:

TODAY AT 5PM

Dec. 15th Our Live Nativity – 5-6pm. It will be displayed in the church lawn. Please tell your friends to come and invite others. We will have supper for those who participate.

DEC. 22ND. CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS SUNDAY

DEC. 24TH – OUR TRADITIONAL CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE. - 7PM

CAROLS, CANDLES, COMMUNION AND CHRIST CHILD

BLUFF POINT

UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

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“THE LITTLE COUNTRY
CHURCH WITH A BIG HEART”



ADVENT of JOY