



**December 11, 2016 11:15 a.m.**

**Third Sunday of Advent**

*Gathering Songs*

*Welcome and Living Our Faith*

*Passing of the Peace*

*Lighting of the Advent Wreath*

Pam and Jim Wilson

We lit the candles for hope and peace.  
Today we light the candle of joy.  
Joy is like an underground spring that wells up within us,  
but joy is also an attitude we choose.

**Like a muscle, it needs to be exercised.**

So today we open ourselves to joy, trusting that God has already planted it  
within us.

**We will nurture our joy and share it with others.**

*Song #85*

“Light One Candle to Watch for Messiah”

*Verse 3*

*Advent Prayer*

**Loving God, we open ourselves to you,  
trusting that you create us for joy-filled hearts and lives.  
Show us the creative power of hope.  
Teach us the peace that comes from justice.  
Prepare our lives to be transformed  
and fill us with a joy that cannot be contained  
that we may walk in the light of Christ. Amen.**

*Song #106*

“Prepare the Way, O Zion”

*Scripture*

Isaiah 35:1-10

Beth Singewald, Lay Reader

*Response*

Holy Wisdom, Holy Word.

**Thanks be to God.**

*Song #89*

“For You, O Lord, My Soul in Stillness Waits”

*Message*

“The Desert Shall Rejoice and Blossom”

Greg Jones

*Song #79*

“Light Dawns on a Weary World”

*Offering*

*Please sign the blue friendship notebook and pass it to the person next to you.*

*Prayers of the People*

*Song #382*

“Heaven Is Singing for Joy”

*Sending*

*Response #95*

“Prepare the Way of the Lord”

*Following the service, we invite you to join us in the Meeting Room for coffee, tea, and fellowship.*

**We are thankful for your presence and participation this morning.** Westminster has two worship options each Sunday. Our Traditional Service, held in the Sanctuary at 9:00 a.m., includes a choir, organ music and a brief Children's Message. Our Alternative Service, Living Mosaics, is held in Rodney Chapel at 11:15 a.m. Both services include prayers, singing, scripture and sermon.

**Following worship, feel free to make a bouquet to brighten someone's day.** Today's flowers are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Jane, Ann and Jay by the Kline and Spilecki families.

**Please remember in your prayers :** Carol Harris, Pauline Mason, Devon Riggs, Debbie Wat and Craig Wemmers

**Children are welcome in worship.** You will find yellow worship bags for all children at the chapel entrance.

**Image:** "Eureka" by Starla Michelle Halfmann; <http://www.starlamichelle.com/new-page>

Pastors: Gregory Knox Jones and Sudie Niesen Thompson  
Pianist: Paul Fleckenstein  
Oboist: Merideth Hite Estevez  
Song Leader: David Price



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