



## Reach One More For Jesus!

Third Sunday of Advent

December 13, 2020

**PRELUDE** "While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks" by G. F. Handel Thelma Downey

### MEDITATIVE THOUGHT

**The hustle and bustle of the season can feel overwhelming, God. Thank You for this time apart from the world, where I can focus on the true meaning of Christmas.**

**WELCOME** Denise Cosgrove

**CALL TO WORSHIP** Denise Cosgrove

L: Welcome to worship on this Third Sunday in Advent. Our focus today is the Light which beckons us onward.

**P: As these days are growing darker, we need to focus on the Light.**

L: Jesus is the Light, which God has given especially to the world.

**P: Help us make our hearts ready to receive Jesus, our Hope and our Light. Amen.**

**OPENING HYMN** "Hark! the Herald Angels Sing" Hymnal Page #240

**1.** Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King; peace on earth, and mercy mild, God and sinners reconciled!" Joyful, all ye nations rise, join the triumph of the skies; with th'angelic host proclaim, "Christ is born in Bethlehem!" Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

**2.** Christ, by highest heaven adored; Christ, the everlasting Lord; late in time behold him come, offspring of a virgin's womb. Veiled in flesh the Godhead see; hail th'incarnate Deity, pleased with us in flesh to dwell, Jesus, our Emmanuel. Hark! the herald angels sing, "Glory to the newborn King!"

**OPENING PRAYER** Denise Cosgrove

**Spirit of God, we give You thanks for drawing near, for touching the world in the Savior's birth. Help us draw near to You, as we prepare our hearts and our world for the justice and peace You bring. Guide our preparations for Christmas, as we share the *good news* with those who suffer, and as we offer our friendship to those who are alone. Move within our hearts, as we make a way for Your coming, by forgiving others as we have been forgiven. Come, Spirit of God; be born in us anew, that we may live in Your mercy and Your grace. Amen.**

**Advent Candle Lighting** Elaine Majors & Denise Cosgrove

**Reader:** We want everything to look nice: the decorations of the season, our homes with their lights and tinsel, wreaths and ribbons. We want to lighten the darkness around us, bring beauty to the ugliness that wears us down. We decorate, because it is tradition. Because it lifts our hearts. Because it makes us feel like children again. We deck our halls because company is coming.

The prophet Isaiah smiled when he said, "God will give a garland instead of ashes, the oil of gladness instead of mourning, a mantle of praise instead of a faint spirit." No matter how far we feel from the spirit of the season, God promises to decorate us with love and with joy.

We light these candles as a sign of our joy in the beautiful things of this season – not just the things that glitter and flash, but the deeper things, the beauty of the heart and the soul, the beauty of love shared in service and hospitality. We light this candle of joy because company is coming.

***Light the Hope, Peace, and Joy Candles***

**Reader:** O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

**READINGS**

Denise Cosgrove

Psalm 33:5 NIV

<sup>5</sup> The LORD loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love.

Romans 12:1

<sup>1</sup> Therefore, I urge you, brothers and sisters, in view of God's mercy, to offer your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and pleasing to God—this is your true and proper worship.

One: The Word of God for the people of God.

**All: Thanks be to God.****MESSAGE "HOW TO FIND THE PERFECT GIFT"**

Pastor Tom

**1. WHAT ARE MY GIFTS TO OTHERS?****2. WHAT'S GOD'S GIFT TO ME?****3. WHAT'S MY GIFT TO GOD?****PRAYERS OF THE PASTOR AND PEOPLE**

Pastor Tom

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Pastor Tom

**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, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the Kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.****GIVING BACK TO GOD (TITHES AND GIFTS)**

Pastor Tom

**DOXOLOGY "Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"**

Hymnal #95

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heav'nly host; Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Denise Cosgrove

**Generous God, Your love renews us and restores our strength. With gratitude, we offer You a portion of what You have given to us. Receive our gifts, our prayers, and our service, that Your church may become a source of hope for the world. Amen.****CLOSING HYMN "O Little Town of Bethlehem" vs. 1 & 4**

Hymnal Page #230

**1.** O little town of Bethlehem, how still we see thee lie; above thy deep and dreamless sleep the silent stars go by. Yet in thy dark streets shineth the everlasting light; the hopes and fears of all the years are met in thee tonight.**4.** O holy Child of Bethlehem, descend to us, we pray; cast out our sin, and enter in, be born in us today. We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell; O come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel!**BENEDICTION**

Pastor Tom

**POSTLUDE "Sing We Now of Christmas" Traditional French Carol**

Thelma Downey



# CHANGE of ADDRESS

Please remember to send all correspondence to  
our new mailing address:  
PO Box 876, Banning, CA 92220.

Margie Peach  
5801 Sun Lakes Blvd #127  
Banning CA 92220  
951-381-1819

Shirley Majors  
5801 Sun Lakes Blvd #231  
Banning CA 92220

Jackie Miller  
3850 Lampson Ave. #321  
Seal Beach, CA 90740  
562-240-5561

Dave Hanson  
319 N. 135 W  
Lindon, Utah 84042