

Third Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2023

THE BLESSING OF GATHERING

PRELUDE

“Gesu Bambino”

*Margaret Cox
Pianist*

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

*John Gregory
Worship Leader*

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

The baby who was born in Bethlehem is alive today.

Come, Lord Jesus!

Death has no power over Him; He walks the world as our risen Lord.

Come, Lord Jesus!

We can feel His presence now as we sing and pray and hear the world.

Come, Lord Jesus!

*John Gregory
Worship Leader*

***HYMN OF PRAISE**

“The First Noel”

*Hymn 151
Verses 1, 2 & 3*

***INVOCATION**

*John Gregory
Worship Leader*

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*John Gregory
Worship Leader*

THE GIFT OF THE WORD

THE LIGHTING OF THE JOY CANDLE

*Mike and Donnette
Mee*

CHILDREN’S MOMENT

“The Candy Cane”

Rev. Edd Spencer

SCRIPTURE

Luke 1:26-35 (NT pages 56 and 57)
Matthew 1:18-21 (NT page 1)

*John Gregory
Worship Leader*

SERMON

"Mary and Joseph"

Rev. Edd Spencer

OUR RESPONSE TO THE WORD

***HYMN OF INVITATION**

"Away in a Manger"

*Hymn 147
All Verses*

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Prayer cards are in the pews

Rev. Edd Spencer

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Edd Spencer

CHRISTMAS ANTHEM

“Joy to the World”

Men of Valley

STEWARDSHIP MESSAGE

Giving of Tithes and Offerings

*John Gregory
Worship Leader*

Offertory

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly”

*Margaret Cox
Pianist*

*Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him, all creatures here below.
Praise Him above, ye heavenly hosts.
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost.*

*Offertory Prayer

*John Gregory
Worship Leader*

THE GIFT FROM JESUS

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

Rev. Edd Spencer

COMMUNION PRAYER

Conclude by praying together the Lord’s Prayer

*Stewart Draper
Elder*

THE COMMUNION

Our deacons will come by each pew to serve you.
Partake of the bread and hold the cup.

SHARING GOD’S LOVE WITH OTHERS

***HYMN OF DEDICATION**

“What Child Is This”

*Hymn 162
Verse 1*

***BENEDICTION**

(Hold hands with the person near you.)

Rev. Edd Spencer

POSTLUDE

“O, How Joyfully!”

*Margaret Cox
Pianist*

*Congregation standing – as able or willing

Please join us in the Fellowship Hall after worship for Christmas Dinner.

Life in the Valley

Sunday, Dec 17	3 rd Sunday of Advent Christmas Offering 10:30am Worship (Sanctuary) Christmas Dinner following worship (Fellowship)
Monday, Dec 18	8:00am Manna Market Prep (Fellowship) 6:00pm Embellishments Bell Choir Group (Yellow Room) Jan Clark's Birthday
Tuesday, Dec 19	8:00am Manna Market Sale (Fellowship) 6:30pm Bible Study Class on Zoom.
Wednesday, Dec 20	11:15am Brown Bag Lunch and Worship (Parlor and Sanctuary) 6:30pm CPR Certification Group (Choir Room) Terry and Carolyn Nunnelly's Anniversary
Friday, Dec 22	2:00pm Memorial Service for Peggy Hiller at Valley
Saturday, Dec 23	10:00am CPR Certification Group (Choir Room)
Sunday, Dec 24	Christmas Eve 4th Sunday of Advent 10:30am Contemporary Christmas Worship in the Parlor 4:00pm Traditional Communion Candlelight Christmas Eve Worship in the Sanctuary.

Today's Servers

WORSHIP LEADER: John Gregory ELDER: Stewart Draper DEACONS/GREETER: Team 1 –
Captain: Beth Collier Members: Terry Nunnelly, Jean Thrasher and John Gregory OPEN: Pastor
CLOSE: Stewart Draper COFFEE FELLOWSHIP: n/a Christmas Dinner in Fellowship Hall