

Astoria First United Methodist Church
December 13, 2020

Third Sunday of Advent

ORDER OF WORSHIP

ANNOUNCEMENTS		Mary Frances
CENTERING MUSIC	<i>“Away In A Manger”</i>	Stephen Morden
WORDS OF WELCOME		Pastor Michael
CALL TO WORSHIP	<i>“He Came Down”</i> <i>“Everybody Sing”</i>	FWS # 2085 v3
LIGHTING THE SECOND ADVENT CANDLE	<i>“Candle of Joy”</i>	Gloria Jones
ADVENT SCRIPTURE	<i>“John 1:6-8, 8-11”</i>	Pastor Michael
<p>There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness, to bear witness about the light, that all might believe through him. He was not the light but came to bear witness about the light. The true light, which gives light to everyone, was coming into the world. He was in the world, and the world was made through him, yet the world did not know him. He came to his own, and his own people did not receive him.</p>		
OPENING PRAYER		Pastor Michael
SCRIPTURE READING	<i>“1 Thessalonians 5:16-24”</i>	Gloria Jones
<p>Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you. Do not quench the Spirit. Do not despise prophecies, but test everything; hold fast what is good. Abstain from every form of evil. Now may the God of peace himself sanctify you completely and may your whole spirit and soul and body be kept blameless at the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. He who calls you is faithful; he will surely do it.</p>		
SPECIAL MUSIC	<i>“Angels We Have Heard On High”</i>	Stephen Morden

UNISON PRAYER FOR CONFESSION

Gloria Jones

God of mercy, light, and love, we confess that we have not been people who are quick to pray. When an emergency befalls us, we turn to pleas and prayers which usually begin with the heart-wrenching cry, "Why?". Help us to remember that you are always ready to hear and respond to all our prayers. Remind us that even though we have often failed to witness to your love and live as people of compassion and faith, you love us unconditionally. Forgive our stubbornness and willfulness. Cleanse our souls and spirits and make us truly ready to receive your light. In Jesus' Name, we pray. AMEN.

MOMENT OF SILENT REFLECTION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Gloria Jones

Rejoice! You who once lived, in darkness – on you a new light is shining and the light of God's glory shall brighten your path. You are healed, loved, and forgiven. Be at peace! Live in God's love and bring hope and justice to all God's people. AMEN.

HYMN OF PREPARATION

"What Child Is This?"

**Mary Frances
UMH#219**

GOSPEL LESSON

"Luke 1:46b-55"

Pastor Michael

SERMON

"Magnificat anima mea Dominum"

Pastor Michael

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Mary Frances

PASTORAL PRAYER

Pastor Michael

LORD'S PRAYER

Pastor Michael

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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. AMEN

BENEDICTION:

Pastor Michael

SPECIAL ANNOUNCEMENTS

**New Advent worship opportunity via ZOOM starting
Tuesdays at 6:00 p.m. through December 22nd**

Christmas Eve Service with Seaside via ZOOM at 7:00 p.m.

**We welcome to our friends from the Warrenton UMC
as they join us for worship.**

We still need volunteers for liturgist each week.

Please call Sue Hicks or Mary Frances Gunn if you wish to help.

If you want to provide special music – let Mary Frances know.

We now have recordings of the worship services available as a link.
