

ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 17, 2017

Third Sunday of Advent

Good morning! We wish God's grace and peace to you as we worship this morning. During the welcome, please sign the registration pads. If you are a first time visitor, we welcome you this morning and pray you have a meaningful worship time with us. (CCLI 1765953)

WORSHIP THE LORD IN THE BEAUTY OF HOLINESS

Ministers – The Congregation
Pastor – Mark Chow

GATHERING FOR CELEBRATION

WORSHIP CHIMES

WELCOME / ANNOUNCEMENTS / INVOCATION

PRELUDE "Gottes Sohn ist kommen"

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

Tony Merry
Todd Sands
H. Walcha

CELEBRATION THROUGH PRAISE

*OPENING HYMN 203 "Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

RESPONSIVE READING 847 Psalm 126 [sing response 2]

ANTHEM "Waiting"

Grace Chancel Choir

J. Althouse

CHILDREN'S MOMENT

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Dunn

ADVENT HYMN 211

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" [vs. 6; no refrain]

"O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thy justice here; disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight."

Reader 1 – "The Lord has done great things for us and we are overjoyed. ...Let those who plant with tears reap the harvest with joyful shouts." (Psalm 126:3, 5 CEB)

Reader 2 – God of Joy, you enter the wilderness of our world and proclaim that there is a way to reach home again.

Reader 3 – God of Joy, you break through clouds of despair and sorrow to bring good news to your people.

Reader 4 – God of Joy, you send hope into the world in the form of a tiny baby.

All – We, God's people, sing songs of joy with the prophet, "I will greatly rejoice in the Lord, my whole being shall exult in my God." (Isaiah 61:10 NRSV)

Reader – On this third Sunday of Advent, we light this candle, knowing that joy is our true home.

Light candles of Hope, Peace, Joy

ADVENT HYMN 211

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" [refrain only]

CELEBRATION THROUGH GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Todd Sands

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

MESSAGE

Pastor Mark Chow

JOY IS OUR TRUE HOME

CELEBRATION THROUGH OUR GIFTS

INVITATION

The Lord requires of us a pure offering, without blemish or spot.

We must be right with God and our neighbor to offer ourselves or our gifts to God.

Therefore, let us confess our sins against God and reconcile with our neighbors.

Let us pray -

CONFESSION (based on 1 Thessalonians 5:16-23 NRSV)

We have grieved your Spirit by our sin.

We have not been steadfast in prayer. We have failed to give thanks.

We have quenched the Spirit.

Silence

We have ignored or despised the words of the prophets.

We have not abstained from every form of evil.

Forgive us, O God. Realign our wills with yours. And fill us with your joy.

Silence

PARDON

Pastor – May the God of peace sanctify you entirely and may your spirit and soul and body be

kept sound now and to the day of the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ. In the name

of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

All – Glory to God! Amen.

OFFERING OUR TITHES AND OUR GIFTS TO GOD

OFFERTORY

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

A. Cather

*DOXOLOGY 94

"Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia!

Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!

Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*BLESSING OF THE OFFERING

Todd Sands

GOING FORTH TO CELEBRATE

*CLOSING HYMN 160

"Rejoice, Ye Pure in Heart"

*BENEDICTION

Pastor – People of God, go out in peace. Go out in hope. Go out in joy.

People – Amen.

Leader – Go in the Spirit to rejoice evermore, pray without ceasing, and always give thanks,

for this is the will of God.

People – Amen.

*BENEDICTION RESPONSE 211 "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" [refrain only]
POSTLUDE "From Heaven Above to Earth, I Come" F. W. Zachau

ATTENDANCE LAST SUNDAY -- Sunday School – 29 Worship – --, 108

BIRTHDAYS THIS WEEK

December 17 Kay Beam, Jeffrey Smith
December 18 Allison Arter, Macaire Fellers
December 19 Kallen Haddox, Vincent McLean, Tammy Porter, Judi Tucker, Sarah Tippie
December 20 Phyllis Cerney, Steve Herron, Ryan Smith
December 21 Jared Hubbard, Jordan Hubbard, Peyton Kenily, Sue Thorne
December 22 Nichole Hannahs
December 23 Martha Lentz, Amy Thompson

THIS WEEK AT GRACE

Sunday, December 17		
Monday, December 18		<i>GRAPEVINE Deadline</i>
Tuesday, December 19		
Wednesday, December 20	6:30 p.m.	Bell Choir
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir
Thursday, December 21		
Friday, December 22	6:30 a.m.	Bible Study – Parlor
Saturday, December 23		
Sunday, December 24	8:15 a.m.	Early Service – Fellowship Hall
	9:00-10:15	Fellowship Time – Fellowship Hall
	9:15-10:15	Sunday School – all ages
	10:30 a.m.	Worship Service
	7:30 p.m.	Christmas Music
	8:00 p.m.	Christmas Eve Service with Communion

VISION STATEMENT for Grace Church

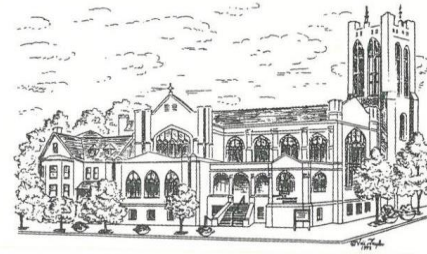
GRACE WILL Gather to worship God — Grow spiritually — Go serve and make disciples

CONTRIBUTIONS to be credited to 2017 must be in the church office before noon, December 31. Any money received after that date will be credited to 2018.

OFFERING ENVELOPES for 2018 are located on a table at the rear of the sanctuary.

Please pick yours up – they are in alphabetical order. If you want envelopes but have not had them in the past, see Judy.

DECEMBER 31 – Two By Two will lead music at both the 8:15 and 10:30 worship celebrations.



GRACE UNITED

METHODIST

CHURCH

516 Shinnick St.
Zanesville, OH 43701
(740) 452-9317
www.graceumcz.org
graceumc516@sbcglobal.net

December 17, 2017

Third Sunday of Advent – “Coming Home”

The season of Advent is a time of preparing for the homecoming of Christ to redeem and renew us. During this Holy Season of expectation, may our homes and our hearts be filled with rejoicing, prayer, and giving thanks for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for us. For no matter how hard the journey may be some days, we know that joy is our true home.

8:15 a.m. Worship Celebration

Thank you to Joyce Cooper and our praise team for leading us in worship.

Gathering for Celebration

Celebration Through Praise

Lighting of the Advent Candles

Celebration Through God's Word

Scripture – 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

The Word of God for the People of God

Thanks be to God

Message – *Joy Is Our True Home* — Pastor Mark Chow

Celebration Through Our Gifts

Offering Ourselves and Our Gifts to God

Offertory

Going Forth to Celebrate

NEXT SUNDAY – December 24 – Fourth Sunday of Advent. Worship services at 8:15 and 10:30.

Christmas Eve – Music of the Season begins at 7:30 p.m.

Candlelight Service with Communion begins at 8:00 p.m.