

Welcome to Worship ~ Sunday, December 10, 2023

The Third Sunday of Advent ~ Sunday of Joy

Ralph Connor Memorial United Church

Worshiping in Canmore

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Minister: Rev Greg Wooley

Music Director: Tanya Sullivan

Greeters: Heather & John Snoddy

Worship Leader: Ian Brownlie

Coffee Time: Janis Dougall and Ellen Andersen

Kids Connection: Faye Forbes-Anderson

**Advent Candle Song:
Voices United #007
“Hope is a Star” (*verse 3*)**



*~Brian Wren & Joan Collier Fogg~
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3. Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn,
telling the world that the Saviour is born.
When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first
and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.

~end~

Lighting the Advent Candle of Joy



After the pink candle is lit:

VOICE 1: Let us pray:

**ALL: Source of light, shine in our lives
and in your world with your life-giving
joy. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

Carol: Voices United #059

“Joy to the World”

~Isaac Watts, 1719 – G.F. Handel, 1742~
Public Domain

*~Children may proceed to ‘Kid’s Connection’ during the singing of this hymn.
They will return to the sanctuary in time for the Anthem.~*

1. Joy to the world! The Lord is come;
let earth receive her King!
Let every heart prepare him room,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven and nature sing,
and heaven, and heaven and nature sing.

2. Joy to the earth! The Saviour reigns:
let all their songs employ,
while fields and floods,
rocks, hills and plains
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat the sounding joy,
repeat, repeat the sounding joy.

3. No more let sins and sorrows grow,
nor thorns infest the ground:
he comes to make his blessings flow
far as the curse is found,
far as the curse is found,
far as, far as the curse is found.

4. He rules the earth with truth and grace,
and makes the nations prove
the glories of his righteousness
and wonders of his love,
and wonders of his love,
and wonders, wonders of his love.

-end-

Pastoral Prayer

Chant: Voices United #047

“Still, Still, Still” (*verses 1 & 3*)

~ Austrian Carol ~

words tr. John Rutter © Hinshaw Music

music arr. by Walter Ehret © Walter Ehret & Walton Music Corp

1. Still, still, still,
the night is calm and still.
The Christ-child in his crib lies sleeping,
angels round him watch are keeping.
Still, still, still:
the night is calm and still.

3. Joy, joy, joy:
glad tidings of great joy!
For through God's holy incarnation
Christ is born for our salvation.
Joy, joy, joy; glad tidings of great joy!
-end-

Hymn: Voices United #661

“Come to my Heart, Lord Jesus”

*~Joe Pinson~
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1. Come to my heart, Lord Jesus;
Teach me to walk in your way.
Come to my heart, Lord Jesus,
Come to my heart today.
Give me the peace and joy
That only you can bring.
Come to my heart, Lord Jesus,
Give me a song to sing.

2. Fill me with love, Lord Jesus;
Teach me to walk in your way.
Fill me with love, Lord Jesus,
Fill me with love today.
Give me the peace and joy
That only you can bring.
Fill me with love, Lord Jesus,
Give me a song to sing.

3. Answer my prayer, Lord Jesus;
Teach me to walk in your way.
Answer my prayer, Lord Jesus,
Answer my prayer today.
Give me the peace and joy
That only you can bring.
Answer my prayer, Lord Jesus,
Give me a song to sing.

-end-

Offertory Hymn: Voices United #045
“Joy is now in Every Place” (*verses 1 & 4*)

~Fred Kaan – Ron Klusmeier~

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1. Joy is now in every place,
Christmas lightens every face;
Now be with us, in your grace,
Hear us, bless us, holy Jesus.

4. Now and ever may we find
your good news to fill our mind:
Peace and love to humankind,
Hear us, bless us, holy Jesus.

~end~

Offertory Prayer

Invitation to the Table: ALL are welcome

Great Thanksgiving Prayer

by Rev. Gord Waldie of St. Paul's United, Grande Prairie

The Great Thanksgiving Prayer: by Rev Gord Waldie

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts. We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Blessings be to you, Creator God...

...we raise our voices in trust and praise as we say:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might.

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the Highest. Blessed is the one who comes
in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the Highest.

Yet even now, as we prepare to celebrate his birth...

...And in our remembering, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Dying, Christ destroyed our death. Rising, Christ restored our life.
Christ Jesus, come in glory!

God, you poured your Spirit on Mary...

...And now, as beloved children of a loving Parent, we pray :

Our Mother and 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
forever and ever. Amen.

Bread and Cup are Shared - *in “tables,” at the front of the sanctuary*

Prayer after Communion (*unison*)

God of life, may the bread we have broken
bring nourishment for our spirits,
may the cup we have shared bring joy to our
souls, that we may embody your own love in
the world. In Christ we pray, Amen.

Blessing

Closing Song of Praise (*verse 3*) More Voices #033

~ traditional song, Cameroon ~
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Jesus came bringing us joy (x3)
Hallelujah forevermore!
~end~