

December 15, 2019 – 10:00 am
Third Sunday of Advent



2019 SUNDAY SCHOOL
CHRISTMAS PROGRAM

ST. JOHN
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION

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Rev. Rosemary Captain

PIANIST – Nancy Eisenhauer

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PRELUDE: “*Away in a Manger Medley*” arr. Bock

LIGHTING THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE:

***RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP:**

One: Come away from haste and frantic busyness.
This is the season for quiet waiting.

**Many: It is hard to still our souls when we are so busy.
It is hard to be patient with ourselves or others.**

One: Receive God's mercy and strengthen your hearts.
A Savior is coming; God's love is near.

**Many: We want to hear and believe God's promises.
We want to become patient, loving seekers.**

One: God presents us with a high and holy way.
Come before God now with praise and singing.

**ALL: We sense the joy God offers to us.
Our Spirits rejoice in God our Savior.**

***UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION:**

Mighty One, we rejoice that you strengthen our weak hands and make firm our feeble knees. You open our eyes and unstop our ears. You meet our hungers with good things. You disturb our false pride while helping us discover our true strength. You topple us from our pretension while lifting up the lowly to claim the inner power you alone can provide. We have assembled to worship you. Awaken the gladness that comes when we recognize your presence. We long to know you in this hour. Amen.

MUSIC, MEMORIES, AND MIRACLES

Script by Nancy Eisenhauer

Slides modified by Judy Schmitt

Narrators – the Adult Sunday School Class

Songs on the screen

INVITATION TO SHARE:

OFFERTORY: “**Angels We Have Heard on High**” arr. Bock

*DOXOLOGY: **NCH 780**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that love has done.
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.**

*UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION:

Majestic God, thank you for inviting us to share the blessings you pour out on us. We want to extend the healing ministry of Jesus who gave sight to those who were blind and new insight to some who only pretended to see. Use our resources to heal attitudes as well as bodies, to bring wholeness, not just cures. Help us to address the inequities of the earth that leave so many without good or shelter or hope. Lead us into your realm in the midst of our daily living. Amen.

*SENDING HYMN: **NCH 132 “Joy to the World”**

*BENEDICTION:

*POSTLUDE: “**The First Noel**” arr. Bock

