

# Order of Worship

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9:30 am – December 12, 2021

### Participating Live?

Text your prayer requests to 805-309-6867 before the end of the first hymn.

**PRELUDE** *Invention No 8, J. S. Bach (BWV 779)* Lance Crane, organ

**WELCOME** Pastors

**HYMN** *Rejoice, the Lord is King!* UMH 715

Text: Edward H. Plumptre, 1865, Public Domain. Tune: MARION, Arthur H. Messiter, 1889, Public Domain.

Rejoice, the Lord is King! Your Lord and King adore;  
mortals, give thanks and sing, and triumph evermore.  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; rejoice; again I say, rejoice.

Jesus the Savior reigns, the God of truth and love;  
when he had purged our stains, he took his seat above.  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; rejoice; again I say, rejoice.

His kingdom cannot fail; he rules o'er earth and heaven;  
the keys of earth and hell are to our Jesus given.  
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice; rejoice; again I say, rejoice.

Rejoice in glorious hope! Jesus the Judge shall come,  
and take his servants up to their eternal home.  
We soon shall hear th'archangel's voice; the trump of God shall sound, rejoice!

**ADVENT WREATH** (responsive) *Isaiah 12: 2-6*

The Word of God, for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

The Lord your God is in your midst, rejoicing over you with gladness, renewing you in love.  
I will bring you home and restore your fortunes, says the Lord.

**In this new light, we give thanks to the Lord.**

With joy you will draw waters from the wells of salvation.

**We will rejoice in the Lord always.**

We light a third candle to reveal the pathway to faithfulness.

**As a covenant people we will seek to live in the joy of the Lord.**

Let us pray: **Lord Jesus Christ, we await Your coming filled with hope, knowing Your light will shine in the darkness. We anticipate Your peace, believing that one day it will fill our world. We embrace Your love, reaching out to share it with neighbors. We wait with joy, bubbling up in expectation of Your birth. Lord, we wait: come soon and fill us with Your life. Amen.**

(adapted from [umcdiscipleship.org](http://umcdiscipleship.org))

**HYMN** *Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates* UMH 213

Text: Georg Weisdel, 1642; trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1855, Public Domain. Tune: TRURO, Psalmody Evangelica, 1789, Public Domain.

Lift up your heads, ye mighty gates; behold, the King of glory waits;  
the King of kings is drawing near; the Savior of the world is here!

Fling wide the portals of your heart; make it a temple, set apart  
from earthly use for heaven's employ, adorned with prayer and love and joy.

Redeemer, come, with us abide; our hearts to thee we open wide;  
let us thy inner presence feel; thy grace and love in us reveal.

Thy Holy Spirit lead us on until our glorious goal is won;  
eternal praise, eternal fame be offered, Savior, to thy name!

**PASTORAL PRAYER & LORD'S PRAYER**

**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, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

**ANTHEM** *A Little Light Was Born* by Joseph M. Martin  
FUMC Chancel Choir; Sabastien Montgomerie, director; Lance Crane, accompanist

**SCRIPTURE** *Philippians 4: 4-7* Patricia Gooch  
The Word of God for the people of God. **Thanks be to God.**

**MESSAGE** *Rejoice!* Pastors

**OFFERTORY PRAYER** (unison)

**Bountiful God, we rejoice in your goodness! You draw us out of sadness and into joy, as you tenderly wipe away our tears and fill our hearts with laughter. May our gratitude overflow in love and kindness for all Your beloved children. Use our gifts and offerings to bring hope and wholeness to our neighbors through our faith community's ministry. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen.**  
(adapted from *umcdiscipleship.org*)

**HYMN** *Joy to the World* UMH 246  
Text: Issac Watts, 1719, Public Domain. Tune: ANTIOCH, G. F. Handel, 1741; arr. Lowell Mason, 1848, Public Domain.

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.

Joy to the world, the Savior 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.

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.

He rules the world 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.

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** *Improvisation* Lance Crane, organ

***Please enjoy refreshments and fellowship in the courtyard after worship!***

***Prayer Requests:***

Retired Clergy — All retired clergy associated with the North District  
North District Office — Pastor Melissa MacKinnon, Pastor Mary Dennis, staff and leaders  
Kate Stradling (Kimmie's twin sister) — recovering from surgery  
Family of Gale Hartman who passed away suddenly 12/5

***You are invited to participate in the "Almost Christmas" Advent Study —***

Books are available in the Narthex! Small Groups meet **Sundays at 10:45 am in the John Wesley Parlor, Mondays at 6:30 pm on Zoom** (contact Esther at: [layleader@venturafumc.org](mailto:layleader@venturafumc.org)), and **Thursdays at 5:30 pm in the John Wesley Parlor or on Zoom** (contact the [Church Office](#)). All are welcome!