

Order of Worship
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT
9:30 am – December 10, 2023

Participating Live?

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

PRELUDE

Hark, the Glad Sound!
Kyle Hanks, organ

Arr. Franklin Ritter

Music: Franklin Ritter, Thomas Hawels. ©2004 Lorenz Publishing Corporation, The. Song #1055600. Permission to reprint, podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained from One License with license #734744-A. All rights reserved.

WELCOME/ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsive)

Varre Cummins, liturgist

Our God can part the sea.
God can bring water from a rock, and provide bread in the desert.
Our God can walk on water.

He can heal the sick, and turn water into wine.
Our God sets the stars in the sky.

God hears our voice when we cry, and is closer than our own breath.
There is nothing our God cannot do.

Let us stand in awe. Let us worship God with wonder.

By Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed {A Sanctified Art LLC} sanctifiedart.org

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLES

Riggs Family

How does a weary world practice joy?
By dancing, and throwing birthday parties.

By hanging Christmas lights, and holding sleepy babies. By singing loudly, and looking for good news.
By telling the story of Jesus, and showing up for our community.

There are a million ways to practice joy. So today we light the candle of joy as a reminder and a charge.
With God's help, may we bring joy into a weary world. Amen

By Rev. Sarah (Are) Speed {A Sanctified Art LLC} sanctifiedart.org

OPENING HYMN

People, Look East

UMH 202

CCLI / Streaming: 345977 / 20105371 / CCLI# 3393606

1. People, look east. The time is near of the crowning of the year.
Make your house fair as you are able, trim the hearth and set the table.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Guest, is on the way.
2. Furrows, be glad. Though earth is bare, one more seed is planted there.
Give up your strength the seed to nourish, that in course the flower may flourish.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Rose, is on the way.
3. Stars, keep the watch. When night is dim one more light the bowl shall brim,
shining beyond the frosty weather, bright as sun and moon together.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Star, is on the way.
4. Angels announce with shouts of mirth him who brings new life to earth.
Set every peak and valley humming with the word, the Lord is coming.
People, look east and sing today: Love, the Lord, is on the way.

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.

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 126 and Luke 1: 57-66
The Word of God for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.**

Varre Cummins, liturgist

A TIME FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

PREPARATION HYMN

Blessed Be the God of Israel

UMH 209

Words: Michael Pery, 1973. Music: Hal H. Hopson ©1973 Jubilate Group, The. Song #06177 with permission to podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained from One License # 734744-A. All rights reserved.

1. Blessed be the God of Israel, who comes to set us free, who visits and redeems us, and grants us liberty. The prophets spoke of mercy, of freedom and release; God shall fulfill the promise to bring our people peace.
2. Now from the house of David a child of grace is given; a Savior comes among us to raise us up to heaven. Before him goes the herald, forerunner in the way, the prophet of salvation, the harbinger of day.
3. On prisoners of darkness the sun begins to rise, the dawning of forgiveness upon the sinner's eyes, to guide the feet of pilgrims along the paths of peace; O bless our God and Savior with songs that never cease!

MESSAGE

Pastor Diane Rehfield

MUSICAL RESPONSE

Longing for the Light from "Tapestry of Light"

by Joseph M. Martin

VFUMC Chancel Choir; Clara Johnson, Director; Kyle Hanks, Pianist

Words and Music: Joseph M. Martin. ©2011 Hal Leonard Co. Song #215590 with permission to podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained from One License # 734744-A. All rights reserved.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Karen & Bob Riggs

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Lord, we generally receive gifts with great joy, and we have received so many gifts from you. We pray that we will remember to be grateful, and to share our joy as we share these gifts with others. Bless them we pray. May they bring joy to those who will receive them, and may they know of your love. Amen

SENDING HYMN

Toda la Tierra (4 English verses)

UMH 210

Words: trans. Gertrude C. Suppe, 1987. ©1988 United Methodist Publishing House. Song # 80401 with permission to podcast, and/or stream the music in this service obtained from One License # 734744-A. All rights reserved.
Music: Alterto Taulè, 1972. Harm. Kyle Hanks, 2022. Used with Permission.

1. All earth is waiting to see the Promised One, and the open furrows, the sowing of the Lord. All the world, bound and struggling, seeks true liberty; it cries out for justice and searches for the truth.
2. Thus says the prophet to those of Israel, "A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel," For his name is "God with us," our brother shall be, with him hope will blossom once more within our hearts.
3. Mountains and valleys will have to be made plain; open new highways, new highways for the Lord. He is now coming closer, so come all and see, and open the doorways as wide as wide can be.
4. In lowly stable the Promised One appeared, yet, feel his presence throughout the earth today, for he lives in all Christians and is with us now; again, with his coming he brings us liberty

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

People Look East
Kyle Hanks, Organ

arr. Kyle Hanks

Longing for the Light

Come, O come, Emmanuel. Come and ransom Israel.
Come with pow'r and majesty. Loose our bonds and set us free.

Come, Thou Wisdom from on high. Come and bring your guiding light.
Guide us with Thy mighty hand. Bring us to the Promised Land.

Refrain: Rejoice, rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.
Rejoice, rejoice! The Light will come, the Babe, the Son of Mary.

Come, O come, great Lord of grace. Come, inhabit all of our praise.
Fill us with Your peace and light; death's dark shadows put to flight. (**Refrain**)

Come, O come, Emmanuel, Emmanuel.

Prayer Requests

Glendale First UMC —Pastor Angela Galanis-Price

Glendale First UMC—Pastor Stephanie Rice

Gloria Lewis—health concerns

All those suffering from illness or loss of loved ones.

FUMC Staff:

Rev. Diane Rehfield—pastordiane@venturafumc.org 805-643-8621

Rev. Cynthia Huskey—pastorcindy@venturafumc.org 805-643-8621

Director of Music Ministry: Clara Johnson

music@venturafumc.org 805-643-8621

Interim Youth & Family Ministries: Clara Johnson

family@venturafumc.org 805-643-8621

Pianist/Organist: Kyle Hanks

organist@venturafumc.org 805-643-8621

Office Manager, Finance Secretary, Church Use Coordinator: Kathleen Matarazzo

office@venturafumc.org 805-643-8621

Treasurer: Gloria Lewis

treasurer@venturafumc.org 805-309-6862

Preschool Director: Autumn McGuire

happyventures@venturafumc.org 805-653-5304

