

## The Third Sunday of Advent

Prelude

*Let us turn our hearts and minds to a time of silent reflection and prayer.*

Welcome and Announcements

Advent Reading

Introit

\*CALL TO WORSHIP *(Based on Isaiah 35:1-10)*

ONE: Leave your exile behind; God is calling us home.

**ALL: We'll follow the Way through the desert.**

ONE: Enter the desert without fear; God's water will quench our thirst.

**ALL: We'll walk the Highway of God's people.**

ONE: Travel the Highway with joy; God is leading to life in abundance.

**ALL: We'll strengthen weak hands, and support feeble knees; We'll encourage the fearful and calm the anxious:**

ONE: Rejoice! Be strong! God is with us!

**ALL: Come, let us worship!**

\*Hymn of Praise

Pilgrim Hymnal # 120

"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

\*PRAYER OF INVOCATION:

O God, we come today echoing John the Baptist's question to your Beloved Child: "Are you the one who is to come?" Give us eyes to see and ears to hear the answer for ourselves: In the workplace: Christ! In the practice of mercy: Christ! In good news for the poor: Christ! In the vision of peace: Christ! Make us ready, with open hearts and joyful spirits, to follow in Christ's Way. *Amen.*

Anthem

Old Testament Lesson

Psalm 116:1-5 and 12-14 (NLT)

Gospel Lesson

Mark 1:1-4 (NLT)

\*Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost.

As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be. World without end. Amen, Amen.

Sermon

Rev. William Kren

"A Season of Prayer"

Hymn of Reflection

Pilgrim Hymnal # 140

"What Child Is This?"

Pastoral Prayer

The 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

Choral Response

Worship in Tithes and Offerings

\*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him all creatures here below;

Praise Him above ye heavenly host: Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

\*Offertory Prayer

\*Hymn of Going Forth

Pilgrim Hymnal # 129

"It Came Upon the Midnight Clear"

\*Benediction

\*Benediction Response

"Emmanuel"

Emmanuel, Emmanuel

His name is called Emmanuel;

God with us, revealed in us;

His name is called Emmanuel.

\*Postlude

\*We invite you to stand if you are able.