Prayer Response FWS#2200 "Lord, Hear Our Prayer"

Morning Message"Joy, In the End"Rev. Wesley ShandReaffirmation/Prayer"New Wine"Elevation*Hymn of Response UMH #246"Joy to The World"

Congregational Response

We have come to worship

because we have a heart for God.

We leave to go into the world to serve those in need,

because we have a heart for the city.

On mission for God: Let's do it!

Benediction

People of God, we wait with hope; we wait with courage; we wait with joy unspeakable, full of glory; we wait with the assurance that The Liberator will come in power, in justice, and in peace. Go now, trusting and believing that it is so . . . in the name of Jesus, the Christ!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CONGRATULATIONS!

Many heartfelt congratulations to those who celebrate birthdays and special anniversaries in the month of December! May God bless you richly!

PRAYER REQUESTS

Rev. Harry and Naomi Baas, Ed and Nancy O'Rourke, Judy Davis, Gayle Miller, the people of Ukraine, the community of Uvalde, TX, Jeffery Perrone, Monte Watson, the Ruane Family, the family of Patsy Partin, and everybody affected by Hurricanes Ian and Nicole



Welcome

THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 11, 2022 11:00AM

FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH 225 EAST DUVAL STREET JACKSONVILLE, FL

Order of Worship Third Sunday of Advent December 11, 2022

Gathering Music TFWS#2151 "I'm So Glad Jesus Lifted Me" "The days of Elijah "

Opening Prayer

O Lord, You know the deserts and the parched places in our lives. We seek Your healing power. Lead us on this Advent journey to the place of new birth and to the place of our redemption; for we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

Call to Worship

Today there is good news for us to behold!

Those who feared that they were worth little to God have found blessing in God's sight.

For in the mercy and love of God, the blind shall see, the lame shall walk without pain, those who could not hear shall be blessed with hearing, and there shall be peace.

God's mercy and love is poured out for our parched souls.

Behold! The Lord's compassion is with God's people.

Believe in the power of God in all things. AMEN.

Opening Hymn: UMH#196 "Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"

Lighting three candles of the Advent wreath

Reader 1:

Blessing upon blessing has been showered upon us by God.

Reader 2:

The lame shall walk; the blind shall see; the deaf shall hear.

Reader 1:

There will be peace, hope, and joy in God's land.

Reader 2:

Be of good courage. Behold! God is blessing and redeeming us! Today we light three candles. The first is the candle of Patience, reminding us to watch and wait for what God is about to do.

[Light the first candle]

The second candle is the candle of Readiness, enabling us to look at our lives, to get rid of all those things that keep us from God, to change our ways and live as God would have us live.

[Light the second candle]

The third candle is the candle of Faith, through which we behold the love and mercy of God and believe in God's presence with us.

[Light the third candle]

Reader 1:

Come, see the lights. Let their brightness fill you.

Reader 2:

Come, feel the warmth of the lights. Let them give you comfort.

Reader 1:

Come, draw near to the lights, for God is breaking through to you.

Reader 2:

Come, rejoice in the lights, God is with us!

Old Testament Reading Isa New Testament Reading Ma

Isaiah 35: 1-10 Matthew 11:2-11

Congregational Response

This is the Word of God for the People of God. Thanks be to God.

Returning God's Tithes and Offerings Song of Praise "Oh, Give Thanks to the Lord" *Doxology Morning Prayer

Doug Tillett