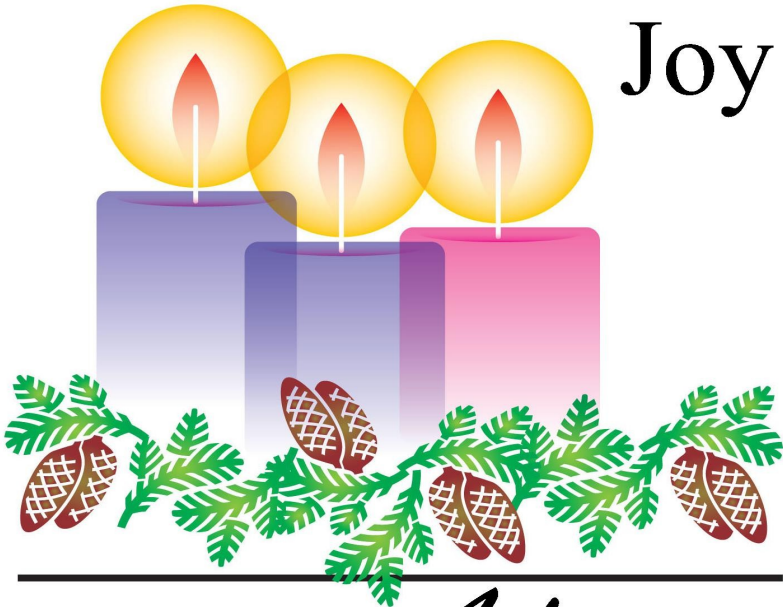


WESTLAKE UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

27650 Center Ridge Rd.
Westlake OH 44145
(440) 871-3088
westlakeumc.org



THIRD SUNDAY OF *Advent*

DECEMBER 17, 2017

10:00 A.M.

ORDER OF WORSHIP

December 17, 2017

10:00 a.m.

Third Sunday of Advent: Joy

(* the congregation is invited to stand as able)

GATHERING OF THE PEOPLE IN PRAISE

TOLLING OF THE CHIMES

The chimes call us to quiet and to prepare for worship. Reflect during the prelude about what a difference Jesus has made in your world.

GREETING

Welcome to WUMC! All members, friends, and visitors are invited to sign the Attendance register. Help us to keep our information up to date and get to know those worshiping near you! Also, please refer to the "FYI Welcome" insert for upcoming events!

CONCERNS AND CELEBRATIONS

Prayer request cards are in the pews. If you have any concerns or celebrations please fill out a card. You may hand it to an usher or the pastor during the first hymn. (as indicated in the bulletin).

PRELUDE

*"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring"
Mark Pinzone, trumpet*

J.S. Bach

*** CALL TO WORSHIP****

L: In a world where we often seek personal happiness,
Advent beckons us to a deeper expression of our faith in Christ.

P: For the Lord our God is with us both now and forevermore.

L: Advent beckons us to remember God's unconditional love,
even when we stumble.

P: For the Lord our God is with us both now and forevermore.

L: Advent beckons us to remember God's invitation to the human heart
to be still in the face of strife.

P: For the Lord our God is with us both now and forevermore.

L: Advent beckons us to remember we always have hope,
even when it seems as if our world is caving in around us.

P: For the Lord our God is with us both now and forevermore.

*** THE LIGHT ENTERS OUR WORSHIP**

*** HYMN**

"Hail to the Lord's Anointed"

203, UMH

-- Please hold up prayer cards so ushers can receive them --

*** OPENING PRAYER (in unison)*****

**Lord of Love and Light, shine through our darkness,
bringing us hope.**

Open our hearts for the journey, our eyes for the light,
our spirits for the peace which you bring.
Fill our mouths with laughter and speech with shouts of joy
that we shall reveal the love with which you surround us.
We offer this prayer in the name of the One who is coming into the world
bringing your hope, love, peace, and joy, Jesus Christ. AMEN.

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE ****

The Leader Family

Scripture Reading: Isaiah 35:10

p. 623-4, OT

This morning we light three candles. The **first candle** reminds us of the hope that God's light never ceases to shine. The **second candle** reminds us that God's perfect love made flesh can fill our hearts, ignite our souls, and change our lives. The **third candle** reminds us that our joy abides in God who gently whispers to each human heart, "Come follow me, for I have come that you might have life and have it to the fullest measure!"

CHILDREN'S CHOIR

"Light One Candle for Joy"
"A Child is Born"

Mark Patterson
Milton & Joanne LeDoux

HEARING & PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

p. 650-1, OT

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

p. 193, NT

RESPONDING TO THE WORD

COMMUNITY TIME

CHORAL CALL TO PRAYER

"Prepare the Way of the Lord"

207, UMH

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER

895, UMH

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.

WORSHIPING WITH OUR TITHES & OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

"What Child Is This"
Mark Pinzone, trumpet

* DOXOLOGY

94, UMH

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia! Praise God, the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts! Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

*** PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

CANTATA: “An Evening in December”

Chancel Choir

(please see insert for details)

SENDING FORTH

*** BENEDICTION**

*** THE LIGHT LEADS US INTO SERVICE**

*** POSTLUDE**

“Cantata reprise”

UMH: *United Methodist Hymnal* FWS: *The Faith We Sing*

From “Light of Hope: A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent,” Text by Rev. Rich Davis, Senior Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, River Forest, IL *From Ministry Matters <http://www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/1964/worship-connection-december-14-2014>

****Modified From “Light of Hope: A Candle Lighting Ceremony for Advent,” Text by Rev. Rich Davis, Senior Pastor, First Presbyterian Church, River Forest, IL Used by permission. Westlake UMC OneLicense.Net #A711142

✠ **In Our Service Today:**

Liturgist: *Larry Bowersox*

Ushers: *Don Parker, Nickie Miller, Duane Miller, Carole Miller*

Greeters: *Dick & Kay Swartz, Tracy Heberle*

This worship service is being live-streamed via our website, westlakeumc.org.

Please note that due to copyright and licensing restrictions, not all music or other multimedia presentations may be broadcast.

**Please join us every Sunday after the 10:00 Worship Service
in Fellowship Hall for Coffee & Fellowship Time.**

All are welcome!



Our bulletins are Green Seal Certified
and contain 30% recycled post-consumer fiber