

# Welcome To Worship

December 13, 2015 9:00 AM

Third Sunday In Advent - REJOICE



*open hearts, open minds, open doors*

## Granville United Methodist Church

Rev. G. Edward 'Ted' Corcelius, Pastor

AS WE GATHER

*Respect those around you:* Attend to your phones: turn them off and/or to vibrate.

*During Worship:* (\*) Please stand if you are able

**Bold Print**—The People in Worship respond

LIFE IN THE COMMUNITY

## PRELUDE

### \* GREETING

L: Come and rejoice in God!

**P: Sing praise to God who continually blesses our lives!**

L: In the midst of troubles and stress, God is near, offering compassion.

**P: Our hope is in the Lord.**

L: Let all the people praise God.

**P: Hallelujah! AMEN.**

L: Our Advent journey continues - we sing together:

### \* HYMN

*Good Christian Friends Rejoice*

224

### TIME IN PRAYER TOGETHER

L: Lord, we have come to this place from a world of demands and schedules. We have sought hope and peace and have found them here. Now we seek the inner joy that only your presence can bring to our lives. Open our hearts and our spirits to your love. We pray together:

**ALL: It is getting more and more difficult, Lord, for us to keep our attention on the holy things. Our lives are caught up in the planning, parties, gifts, and other such things. We get side-tracked too easily and exhausted, we fall into restless sleep. The cries of those in need abound and we are overwhelmed by the need. Too often we turn a deaf ear because we feel we just can't meet all the needs that are presented to us. Heal our hearts and spirits, Lord. Help us understand that you do not ask us to heal everything but rather to find a simple way in which we might lighten someone else's burden, as you have lightened our lives. You have brought hope and peace to us. Now cause us to rejoice in the wondrous things that you have done. Teach us to use our gifts for the common good, and that in helping, we find great and abundant joy. In Jesus' Name, we pray.**

## SILENT PRAYER WITH WORDS OF ASSURANCE

L: The messenger has been sent to you, proclaiming that there is One who is Coming who will heal and lead you. Know that this is a great gift from God, who has always and will always love you. **P: Amen.**

## ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

**Scripture – Philippians 4:4-7**

**Pew Bible NT**

**187**

### **Reflection**

### **Candle Lighting Liturgy**

L: 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.

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

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

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

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

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

## HYMN *God Almighty, We Are Waiting – verse 2*

From Worship and Song – Words on the Screen

*[Here light 2 purple candles and the pink candle are lit while the congregation sings.]*

## SCRIPTURE LESSONS

*Zephaniah 3:14-20*

**Pew Bible OT**

**826-827**

*Isaiah 12:2-6*

**Pew Bible OT**

**603**

*Luke 3:7-18*

**Pew Bible NT**

**56**

## FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

*When you make something!*

\* HYMN

*It Came Upon The Midnight Clear*

**218**

INVITATION TO SHARE IN DISCIPLESHIP

OFFERTORY

\* RESPONSE *Jesus, the Light Of The World (chorus)*  
Words on the Screen

\* HYMN *Sanctuary*  
Words on the Screen

MESSAGE *Fruits – Not Roots!*

A TIME IN PRAYER

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

\* HYMN *In The Bleak Midwinter* 221

\* BENEDICTION

\* POSTLUDE

*Depart to the Mission Field as you Serve the Lord  
Fellowship follows this worship time in the Social Hall  
Educational class follow the fellowship time  
Share in this time - grow in your faith*