



December 11, 2022

The Third Sunday of Advent: JOY

We Gather Together

Prelude

Sherry Steele

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

RUC Handbells
Lois Samis Lund, Director

Advent Candle Lighting: The Candle of Joy

Music: "Gesu Bambino" by Peitro Yon; words and arrangement by Joel Raney

*Sung: O come, O come, Emmanuel,
And end this gloom of night.
Bring hope to the world,
Bring peace to the earth,
And fill us with love's pure light.*

Litany:

In this season of Advent, we celebrate with joyful hearts.

Christ is our light and the source of our joy.

We count our blessings, and give thanks for God's goodness and grace.

Christ is our light and the source of our joy.

We strive to search for the good in neighbours near and far.

Christ is our light and the source of our joy.

We remember that God has promised us full and joyful lives.

Christ is our light and the source of our joy.

Advent Prayer (unison)

VU 26

**Who are we, O God, that you should come to us?
Yet you have visited your people
and redeemed us in your Son.
As we prepare to celebrate his birth,
make our hearts leap for joy at the sound of your word,
and move us by your Spirit to bless your wonderful works.
We ask this through him whose coming is certain,
whose day draws near, even your Son, Jesus Christ.
Amen.**

*Opening Hymn *Hark the Glad Sound* vss 1, 3,4 VU 29

Children's Time Krystal Manuel

*Children's Hymn *Jesus Came Bringing [Joy]* MV 33

After this song, young people grades K – 12 are invited downstairs for programming for children and youth. There is a "Family Room" beside the sanctuary (through the door behind the piano) for little ones, from which you can see and hear the service.

We Listen for the Spirit Stirring

Scripture Reading Isaiah 11: 1-10; Matthew 3: 1-12

Anthem RUC Choir
Katy Luyk, Guest Director

Reflection Outrageous Faith 3: Prepare! Rev. Valerie Oden

*Hymn *Prepare the Way of the Lord* VU 10

Prayers of the People / The Lord's Prayer

We Respond with our Gifts and our Lives

Stewardship Moment John Adomonis

Offering our Gifts

Offering plates can be found in the narthex. Electronic gifts are welcome by e-transfer to: contactus@riverbendunited.org or on the church website. We give in gratitude for God's grace and in hope that peace may spread to all.

