

*O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;
disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadows put to flight.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.*

**O come, Desire of nations, bind all peoples in one heart and mind;
bid envy, strife and discord cease;
fill the whole world with heaven's peace.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**

***The Charge and Benediction** (responsive)

Philippians 4:4,-7

Rejoice in the Lord always;
again I will say, Rejoice!
Let your gentleness be known to everyone.
The Lord is near!

Do not worry about anything, but in everything by prayer and supplication
with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.
And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus. Amen.

***Sung Benediction 113 (verse 1)**

French carol

ENSEMBLE: *Angels we have heard on high, sweetly singing o'er the plains,
And the mountains in reply echoing their joyous strains.*

ALL: **Gloria in excelsis Deo! Gloria in excelsis Deo!**

***Postlude**

"Joy to the World" G.F. Handel/arr. Cherwien

** All are invited to stand.*

Masking, distancing, vaccination, limiting physical contact and reducing singing time
are all part of our faithfulness toward one another and to God. The **Prayer of
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Feasting on the Word Worship Companion.

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**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: GAUDETE (REJOICE)
MONTREAT PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
Upper Anderson, Montreat, North Carolina
December 12, 2021, 10:00 A.M.**

Morning Meditation

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice. The Lord is near."

Philippians 4:4,5

"With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation."

Isaiah 12:3

Chimes

Ritual of Fellowship

The Lighting of the Advent Candle

Joy

Prelude

"In Dulce Jubilo"

German carol, XIVth c.

piano improvisations V. Hare

Call to Worship (liturgist)

from Zephaniah 3:14-29

Sing aloud, O daughter Zion; shout, O Israel!

Rejoice and exult with all your heart, O daughter Jerusalem!

The LORD, your God, is in your midst;

he will rejoice over you with gladness,

he will renew you in his love;

he will exult over you with loud singing as on a day of festival.

And I will save the lame and gather the outcast,

and I will change their shame into praise and renown

in all the earth.

***Hymn 106**

“Prepare the Way, O Zion” BEREDEN VÄG FÖR HERRAN

**Prepare the way, O Zion; your Christ is drawing near!
Let every hill and valley a level way appear.
Greet one who comes in glory, foretold in sacred story.
O blest is Christ who came in God’s most holy name.**

ENSEMBLE:

*He brings God’s rule, O Zion; he comes from heaven above. His rule is peace and freedom,
and justice, peace, and love. Lift high your praise resounding, for grace and joy abounding.
O blest is Christ who came in God’s most holy name.*

**Fling wide your gates, O Zion; your Savior’s rule embrace,
and tidings of salvation proclaim in every place.
All lands will bow rejoicing, their adoration voicing.
O blest is Christ who came in God’s most holy name.**

Prayer of Confession *followed by silent prayer*

**In your presence, Holy God, we confess that we need repentance.
We have broken your commands against idolatry.
We do not live in peace with your creation or your people.
We have not trusted your word, and we are afraid.
Forgive us, restore us, and turn our shame into praise, we pray,
for the sake of the One who proclaims the good news
and for the sake of all the world. Amen.**

Assurance of Pardon

Reading from the Prophets

Isaiah 12:2-6

Choral Anthem

“While We Are Waiting, Come”

Cloninger/Cason

Reading from the Gospel

Luke 3:7-18

The Sermon

“With Joy You Will Draw Water from the Wells”

Keith Grogg

Prayers of the People and 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.**

Offertory

“The Holly and the Ivy”

trad. English

Prayer of Dedication

***Affirmation of Faith**

Westminster Confession of Faith

The Son of God, the second Person in the Trinity, being very and eternal God,
did, when the fullness of time was come, take upon him the nature of humanity,
with all the essential properties and common infirmities thereof; yet without sin:
**being conceived by the power of the Holy Ghost,
in the womb of his mother Mary, of her substance;**
so that two whole, perfect, and distinct natures,
the Godhead and the humanity,
were inseparably joined together in one person,
**true God and true man, yet one Christ,
the only Mediator between God and humankind.**

***Hymn 88 (1, 6, 7)**

“O Come, O Come, Emmanuel”

pre-IXth c.

**O come, O come, Emmanuel, and ransom captive Israel,
that mourns in lonely exile here until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.**