

## Order of worship

December 16, 2017 Third Sunday of Advent 10:00am

"JOY"

### PRELUDE

### OPENING WORDS

Art Cooper

### \*\*\*CALL TO WORSHIP

Art Cooper

Leader: We come from a world of darkness.

People: Into Christ's world of Light

Leader: We come from a world of weariness.

**People: Into God's strength and hope.**

Leader: We come from a tumultuous world.

**People: Strengthen us by the Spirit. Awaken our souls and help us to watch and wait for the coming of Christ.**

\*\*\*OPENING HYMN: "Come, Christians, Join to Sing" UMH #158

### INVOCATION

Art Cooper

*Leader:* Dear Lord, come into our hearts this day. Open us to your love and quiet assurance.

**People: As Advent continues, give us the strength and power to live in your grace and accept the gifts of friends and family.**

*Leader:* Let us awaken to your love and welcome all into our church.

**People: For God, will bring the Promised Messiah into reality.**

**ALL: Restore us Lord. Remind us of your love. Let your face shine upon us, that we may find love for all in this world and that we might be saved through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

### ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING – Beth and Joe DeGrande

*Reader 1:* Today is the third Sunday of Advent. "Advent" means "coming". We wait and prepare for the coming of Christ.

*Reader 2* As we relight the candles of hope and peace let us remember that this is the season of waiting; being able to appreciate the journey as well as the results. (light two purple candles)

*Readers:* We light the third candle to remind us that this is the season of Joy, as Mary was, anticipating the birth of Jesus. (light pink candle)

**All Join In: Into our world as into Mary's womb, come Lord Jesus**

**Into the lives of the poor, bring hope;**

**Into the lives of the powerful, bring caution;**

**Into the lives of the weary, bring rest;**

**Into the lives of the wise, bring restlessness;**

**and into our lives and longings, come Lord Jesus.**

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Rev. David F. Hurst

**ALL: O God, we confess to you that we look for you in all the wrong places. We seek you among the learned and among the powerful; but yet**

you appear to us as one of the lowly.. You are found in the barrio, in tenement houses, among migrant workers and in a baby born in a stable to Mary and Joseph in Bethlehem. Keep us open and curious, for the unsuspected ways in which you enter into our lives. Teach us to notice you among the poor, the dispossessed and even among the rich and talented. Smile upon us when we argue. Be patient with us when we miss God's signs and gifts. All this we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. AMEN

### ASSURANCE OF PARDON

*Leader:* Almighty God have mercy upon us: Help us to find our way by the power of the Holy Spirit..Through your unconditional love we are assured of your forgiveness.

**People: Thanks be to God**

### \*\*\* PASSING OF THE PEACE

### \*\*\* CHILDREN'S TIME

Eduardo and Children

**PSALTER READING:** Psalm 97 (Red Hymnal) pg 816-817

### JOYS AND CONCERNS

Rev. David F. Hurst

Pastoral Prayers

The Lord's Prayer

**Response: "Glory Be to the Father"**

*"Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be, world without end. Amen. Amen*

**SCRIPTURE READING: First Lesson Isaiah 12:2-6**

Art Cooper

(chair Bible OT pg 641-642)

\*\*\*Hymn of Preparation: " People, Look East "

UMH #202

**SECOND LESSON: Luke 3: 7-18**

Rev. David F. Hurst

(chair Bible NT Bible pg 60)

**SERMON: "Anticipation"**

Rev. David F. Hurst

### MINISTRY OF GIVING

\*\*\*RESPONSE: "What Gift Can We Bring" (Verse #3)

UMH #87

Prayer of Dedication

\*\*\*PARTING HYMN: "Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates"

UMH #213

### BENEDICTION

Leader: Beyond the darkness, there is a star.

**People: Beyond the noise, there is an angel song. Beyond the rush, there is a wonderful stillness. May the God of Advent days touch your lives with all the joys of the holy birth.**

### POSTLUDE

(\*\*\*indicates to stand if able)

The flower arrangement this morning are in memory Michael LaPlant given by his Aunt Carolyn Burrows.

**This Week of December 16th - 3rd Sunday of Advent**

Sunday, December 16th - Morning Worship 10:00am

Sunday, December 16th - Puppet Practice - Sanctuary - 11:30AM

Monday, December 17th - Cot Shelter Meal

Wednesday, December 18th - Office Hours 9am - 2pm

**Next Week of December 23rd - 4th Sunday of Advent**

Sunday, December 23rd - Morning Worship 10:00am

Sunday, December 23rd - Puppet Practice - Sanctuary - 11:30am

Wednesday, December 25th - Office Hours 9am - 2pm

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

\*\*\*COT SHELTER MEAN - Monday, December 17th

Sign up for needed items is located on the Library Table.

(see Sherrilyn Seklecki if questions)

\*\*\***GIVING TREE:** Today is the last Sunday to donate Hats, Mittens, Socks and Gloves for Adults and PJ's for Children for the Survival Centers. Place your donations under the tree in the Sanctuary.

\*\*\***CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICE:** Christmas Eve Service will be held on Monday, December 24th @ 7:00pm here are CUMC and will be a service of Candlelight, Scripture and Song. The CUMC Puppet Friends will also be joining us.

\*\*\***ANNUAL GIVING** Now is the time to bring your 2018 pledge up to date or you may wish to give additional monetary funds to the church. (Annual giving and additional funds are tax deductible)

PASTOR: Rev. David F. Hurst

MUSIC DIRECTOR: Pam Kukucka

CHRIST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

271 Rocky Hill Rd., Northampton, MA /

P.O.B. 701 Northampton MA 01061

Office Hours: Wednesdays 9am - 2pm (church office)

email: christnorthampton@gmail.com / office phone (413) 584-5935

Web: christumcnorthampton.org / Facebook: Christnorthampton

Rev. David F. Hurst (413) 426-6031 email: dfhurst@verizon.net