



*In Essentials...*

**UNITY**

*In Non-essentials...*

**LIBERTY**

*In All Things...*

**CHARITY**

***CUP Evangelical Presbyterian Church***  
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*“Join us for a drink of Living Water”*

***December 12, 2021***  
***The Third Sunday in Advent***

We welcome you to the worship of God Almighty this Lord's Day. It is our intention to bring glory and honor to Him.  
God enters our time of worship and we remember this time belongs to Him. Your Worship Commission

***Meditation***

*All the figures who appear on the first pages of Luke's Gospel are waiting. Zechariah and Elizabeth are waiting. Mary is waiting. Simeon and Anna, who were there at the temple when Jesus was brought in, are waiting. The whole opening scene of the good news is filled with waiting people. And right at the beginning all those people in some way or another hear the words, 'Do not be afraid. I have something good to say to you.' These words set the tone and the context. Now Zechariah and Elizabeth, Mary, Simeon and Anna are waiting for something new and good to happen to them.*

*~ Henri Nouwen*

***Westminster Chimes and Announcements***

***Prelude***                      *'Of the Father's Love Begotten'*                      *~ 13<sup>th</sup> Century Plainsong*

***The Lighting of the Third Advent Candle***                      *Duane and Tammy Popham*

***\*Call to Worship***                      *Alexis McCowin, Lay Assistant*

*Leader: God our Father, as Christmas time approaches we have many things to prepare.*

*There are presents to be bought and wrapped, and greetings to be sent.*

**People:** Help us to take this time to prepare our hearts for your coming.

*Leader: What will be the good of our activity if it crowds you out, or of our gifts and greetings unless our own lives are presentable to you and to those around us?*

**People:** Grant us eyes to see and feet to serve. May we offer gifts of love to the lonely, gifts of hope to the poor, and gifts of peace to the troubled.

*Leader: God our Father, there is more to get ready than we realized, and the time may be shorter than we think before we are called to account.*

**People:** Whether long or short, Lord, we want to be found faithful. Guide our hearts, our minds, and our wills as we worship you today!

**\*Hymn No. 125**

*‘Joy to the World’*

*(Verses 1-2,4)*

*(Children are dismissed for Children’s Church with Miss Joel)*

**\*Praise and Worship**

*‘Angels We Have Heard on High’  
‘Waymaker’*

**Sermon**

*‘Sing with Perfect Timing’  
Series: Waiting for Christmas*

*Rev. Scott Graham*

**Call to Confession**

**Prayer of Confession**

Lord, we give you thanks that you have come to earth in the form of a baby in order to save us. We thank you that you are returning in power and glory to bring history to an end and to judge the world in love and in justice. We confess that our understanding of who you are is shallow, and we rarely put the time and effort into learning and loving. Lord, may we see you as you truly are, in order for us to appreciate what you have done for us, that we may be fully alive in your presence. . . (silent prayers of confession)

**Assurance of Pardon**

**\*Creed**

*The Apostle’s Creed*

*I believe in God the Father Almighty, maker of heaven and earth; And in Jesus Christ His only Son, our Lord; who was conceived by the Holy Ghost, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, dead, and buried; He descended into hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth on the right hand of God, the Father Almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the quick and the dead. I believe in the Holy Ghost, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen.*

**Scripture Reading**

*Luke 1:67-80*  
Leader: The Word of the Lord ~  
People: Thanks be to God ~

Lg. print #1590/ pew #724  
Lg. print NEW ED. #1559

**Pastoral Prayer and 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. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.”

**\*Doxology** Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise Him all creatures here below. Praise Him above ye heavenly host; praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*Dismissing Hymn No. 133**

*‘Hark! The Herald Angels Sing’*

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

*‘While Shepherds Watched Their Flocks’*

*~ Handel*

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