**Order for the Public Worship of God**

**December 17, 2017**

**3rd Sunday of Advent**

**8:15 & 11:00 AM Worship Services**

**WE GATHER**

(Please silence electronic devices. Large print bulletins and hymnals as well as hearing assistance devices are available. Ask an usher.)

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Chris Curvin, Pastor

**Leader:** Jesus says: I am coming soon.

**People:** Amen. Come Lord Jesus!

**Leader:** Look! The young woman is with child;

**People:** she will call him Emmanuel: God is with us.

**Leader:** Let us worship God.

**OPENING VOLUNTARY**

“Sing We Now of Christmas/ arr. Brant Adams God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen”

Melanie Schulz, Violin

**WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS**

*PASSING THE PEACE OF CHRIST* (Please complete the bulletin insert, “FRIENDSHIP SHEET,” and pass it toward the center aisle.)

*HYMN #143* “Angels from the Realms of Glory” \*REGENT SQUARE (stanzas 1,2,4)

**THE ADVENT CANDLE OF JOY**

Lighting the Candle

(8:15) Sue Walker & Ellen Stoup

(11:00) Eric, Marcy, Amy & Kurt Kemerer

The reader offers words about the candle of joy and reads from, Isaiah 35.

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

Paul Means, Associate Pastor

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

God of birth, God of joy, God of life, we come to you as a people hungry for good news. We have preoccupied ourselves with pleasures and have overlooked the joy you offer us. We have been so concerned with making a living that we have missed the life you set among us. Forgive us, gracious God. Open our eyes and our hearts to receive your gift; open our lips and hands to share it with all humanity in the name of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

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**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

**CONEGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #108 (stanzas 3) DIVINUM MYSTERIUM**

O that birth forever bless—ed when the Virgin, full of grace, by the Holy Ghost conceiving, bore the Savior of our race, and the babe, the world’s Redeemer, first revealed his sacred face, evermore and evermore! Amen.

**CALL TO OFFERING/PRAYER**

**MUSICAL OFFERING**

“What Child Is This?” arr. Lloyd Larson

“International Carol Suites”

Written and Orchestrated by Mark Hayes

Scripture: Isaiah 9: 6-7; John 1: 1-4 (KJV)

Narration: “What Is To Come?”

**Carols of Western Europe**

“Good Christian Men, Rejoice” (Germany)

“He Is Born, the Holy Child” (France)

“The Son of Mary” (Spain)

“Still, Still, Still” (Austria)

“Gesu Bambino” (Italy)

Solo: Cindy Huffman, Alto

“Break Forth, O Beauteous, Heavenly Light” (Germany)

“Angels We Have Heard on High” (France)

“Ukrainian Bell Carol” (Ukraine)

“O, Come Rejoicing” (Poland)

“Infant Holy, Infant Lowly” (Poland)

“Rocking Carol” (Czech Republic)

“Come, Hear the Marvelous News” (Bohemia)

“Carol of the Russian Children” (Russia)

Solo: Roger Winder, Tenor

Scripture: Luke 2: 8-12, 15-18 (KJV)

Narration: “What Matters?”

“Carol of the British Isles”

“What Child Is This” (Great Britain)

Solo: Dick Casper, Bass

“God Rest You Merry, Gentlemen” (Great Britain)

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**CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

**8:15 AM CHILDREN’S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

3 Yr. Olds-2nd Grade (17/18 School Year)
Children may remain in service with their family or join us in room 3 for a multi-age Sunday School worship following the anthem.

**9:30 AM CHILDREN’S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

3 Yr. Olds- Kindergarten, Room 3
Students will start and stay in their classroom for the Sunday school hour with Justine Ruisz & Chrissy Raborn.

1st & 2nd Grade, Room 2
Students will start and stay in their classroom for the Sunday school hour with Gulten Wulf & Aly Tobiassen.

3rd-5th Grade, Room 8
Students will start in the sanctuary and then move to room 8 with Cassandra Fredrickson & Jean Swintek.

**11:00 AM CHILDREN’S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

3 Yr. Olds-2nd Grade (17/18 School Year)
Children may remain in service with their family or join us in room 3 for a multi-age Sunday School worship following the anthem.

Childcare for children 3yrs-5th grade who attended Sunday school at 9:30 will be in room 2.

Parents, if you wish for your children to receive communion please have them remain with you in the worship service on Communion Sundays. If you have any questions regarding the process, please contact Elder Jackie Koski, Chair of Worship Team.

**9:30 AM MIDDLE & HIGH SCHOOL CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

Middle & High School will meet this week for Sunday School. All youth are invited to attend worship together in the Sanctuary for the 9:30 Ignite service. We will attend service for the first 20 minutes and then move to the City for Sunday School.

**ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION**

**9:30 TCI (Today’s Christian Issues) Class**—This week, in Rooms 9 and 11, the TCI class will continue its two-week discussion of “The Parable of the Talents” and how to use the teachings of the parable in forming a new worshipping community. Coffee and cookies are always available.

**11:00 A.M. EXPERIENCING GOD CLASS** will meet today in room 15, led by Vicki Krueger.

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**COUNTDOWN WELCOME**

**THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE OF JOY**
Candy & Rich Spoenlein

**CHRISTMAS CAROLS—Pierced Youth Band**
“Angels We Have Heard on High”
“Hark! The Herald Angels Sing”
“O, Come All Ye Faithful”

**MEET & GREET ANNOUNCEMENTS VIDEO**

“Christmas Confusion”

“It’s Christmas”

**SHARING JOYS & CONCERNS IN PRAYER**

**CALL TO OFFERING OFFERTORY**
“Be Born In Me”
Alyssa Long, Soprano

**SCRIPTURE**
Isaiah 9:6, Luke 2: 8-14
(page 555, 833)

**MESSAGE**
The Promises of His Coming:
#2 “Peace”
Chris Curvin, Pastor

**SONG OF DEDICATION**
“Joy to the World (Unspeakable Joy)”

**GOD’S BLESSING TO YOU**