EDUCATION MINISTRY FOR ALL AGES

8:15 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
3 Yr. Olds-5th Grade (2014/15 School Year), Room 3, join us in the multi-age Sunday School worship class after the Children’s Message.
Teacher: Justine Rausz

9:30 AM CHILDREN'S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
3 Yr. Olds-Kindergarten (14/15 School Year) Room 3
Teachers: Kim Blackmore & Claire Hamilton

1st & 2nd Grades Room 16
Students will remain with their teachers, in the front pews, for the whole service today.
Teachers: Nancy Turner & Billie Neece

3rd, 5th Grades Room 8
Students will remain with their teachers, in the front pews, for the whole service today.
Teachers: Bridgette & Roger Ulrich

11:00 AM CHILDREN’S CHRISTIAN EDUCATION
3 Yr. Olds – 5th grade (14/15 school year) join us as we bring the Bible to Action through games and activities in room 3 beginning at 11:00.
Children will move to room 3 at 11:20 where they can be picked up after service. Should your child like to attend service up until the Children’s message, they can join in on the fun in room 3 after the Children’s Message or remain in worship with their parents.
Teacher: Barbara Englehart & Nancy Stevens

Middle & High School Christian Education
Come join us for combined middle/high school Sunday school. We will be studying the “Elements” of our faith. Through new and exciting curriculum, we will learn how to grow in our walk with God.
9:30 AM Youth Room
11:00 AM Youth Room
Children Welcome to the Lord’s Table
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 (jackieandjerry@verizon.net), Chair of Worship Team. (Communion is normally celebrated on the first Sunday of each month).

9:30 AM ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

SERENDIPITY—Rooms 13 & 15 TODAY: Join us as we study different Biblical Figures each week! Coffee and cookies are provided!

TCI (Today’s Christian Issues)—Rooms 9 & 11
TODAY: Bill Bittern will conduct the class today that will deal with a woman that has a long unresolved guilt. The lesson is taken from the Wired Word. Coffee and cookies are in addition to a lively discussion.

11:00 AM ADULT CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

EXPERIENCING GOD – Rooms 13 & 15
TODAY: Led by Vicki Krueger.

HYMN NOTES: “My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout” (100)
This lively Advent hymn was written and the music arranged by parish musician, Rory Cooney (b. 1952) in the year 1990. It sings like a ballad and is a thoughtful paraphrase of the Magnificat—the song of Mary at her visit with Elizabeth (Luke 1:46-55). Cooney is an accomplished composer and writer and currently serves at St. Anne’s RC Church in Barrington IL. The hymn, although sung in the Roman Catholic Church for nearly 25 years, is becoming popular in other churches as well, now appearing in eleven hymnals. The tune is an old Irish ballad set in Bainbridge in County Down, Northern Ireland. It is almost identical to the English tune KINGSFOLD which appears four times in our Glory to God hymnal. That may be why you think you’ve known this new hymn for a long time!
Order for the Public Worship of God
3rd Sunday of Advent
8:15 & 11:00 AM  December 14, 2014

WE GATHER
(Let the congregation be silent, and in prayer as the music begins.
Please silence electronic devices.)

PRAYER OF PREPARATION
OPENING VOLUNTARY  “Veni, veni Emmanuel”  Noel Goemanne
(Acolytes symbolically bring in the light of Christ & then take it out into the world.)

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

HYMN #88  “O Come, O Come Emmanuel”  VENI EMMANUEL
(stanzas 1,4,5)

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE OF JOY
(Choir) When shepherds came to see the baby, torches lit the way
So they could find the stable where little Jesus lay.

Lighting the Candle and Prayer
(8:15) David, Kimberly, Shaun & Sarah Flaherty
(11:00) Chris, Dee, Drew & Julie Bryant
All sing:

We light the Ad-vent can - ile to shine on us to-day, to give us joy, to
make us warm while we a - wait the com - ing of Christ mas Day.

WE CONFESS
CALL TO CONFESSION  Paul Means, Associate Pastor

PRAYER OF CONFESSION  (Unison)
Mighty God: by your love and providence is Christ born among us. We
confess that we have not always believed in him and the wonders he brings
to all of life, but fall into doubt and fear. Set us free in the victory of Jesus
Christ, who was born of the virgin Mary, died for the sins of the
world, and now lives among us so that our joy may be full. Keep us faithful
in our trials so that we may receive the wonderful inheritance you have
prepared for us; through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON
*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #88 (Stanzas 6)  VENI EMMANUEL
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.

ANTHEM  “The Holly Bears a Berry”  arr. Howard Helvey
4-hand piano: Stephanie Carson, Tom Huffman
Now the holly bears a berry as white as the milk,
And Mary bore Jesus, who was wrapped up in silk:
Refrain: And Mary bore Jesus Christ our Saviour for to be,
And the first tree in the green-wood, it was the holly.

FAITH SHARING WITH THE CHILDREN  (Children age 3 (by 9/14) through fifth grade may go to Room 3 for Children’s Worship.)

WE UNITE IN PRAYER
PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & 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.”

WE SHARE
CALL TO OFFERING
MUSICAL OFFERING  Wayne L. Wold
“I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light”
(based on the hymn at #577 to Glory to God)

*DOXOLOGY—#606  OLD HUNDREDTH
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.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

WE HEAR THE WORD
SCRIPTURE READING  Romans 16:17-20, 25-27 (NRSV)

*HYMN #100  “My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout!”  STAR OF THE COUNTY DOWN

SERMON  “It’s a Wonderful Life”  Chris Curvin, Pastor

WE GO OUT TO SERVE
*HYMN #104  “O Lord, How Shall I Meet You”  VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN
(stanzas 1,5)

*BENEDICTION
CLOSING VOLUNTARY  “Savior of the Nations, Come”  Friedrich Zachau
(based on the Advent hymn at #102 to Glory to God)
(You are invited to remain for the final act of worship, the closing voluntary. A closer look is
welcomed if you wish to come stand next to the organ console.)

Stephanie Carson, Music Director
Tom Huffman, Organist & Associate Music Director

*Congregation will stand. If standing is difficult for you, feel free to remain seated.

Solo: Lindsey Peterson

WE CONFESS
ASSURANCE OF PARDON
*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #88 (Stanza 6)

*HYMN #104  “O Lord, How Shall I Meet You”  VALET WILL ICH DIR GEBEN
(stanzas 1,5)

*BENEDICTION
CLOSING VOLUNTARY  “Savior of the Nations, Come”  Friedrich Zachau
(based on the Advent hymn at #102 to Glory to God)

*Congregation will stand. If standing is difficult for you, feel free to remain seated.

Solo: Lindsey Peterson

WE CONFESS
ASSURANCE OF PARDON
*CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #88 (Stanza 6)