

## Pastoral Prayer—Lord's Prayer

### “Doxology

United Methodist Hymnal #94

“Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow”

### Offertory Prayer

We give thanks, O Giver of Life, for all the gifts you bestow upon us every moment of every day. Help to recognize the source of our lives, our blessings and our very being. Take these small tokens of our thanks and bless them so that they might be blessings to others. In the name of the greatest gift of all, Christ Jesus. Amen.

### Closing Hymn

“There's a Song in the Air”

UMH#249

### Benediction & Sending Forth

Brothers and sisters in Christ, it is time to rejoice. The Lord is near. We are called to go forth from this place in the full assurance of One who promises peace, strength and salvation. You have heard the Good News. Now go forth and allow this news to shine for all that you say, all that you do, and all that you are. Thanks be to God.

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THIRD SUNDAY

OF

Advent

## ***Minden United Methodist Church***

**Order of Worship**

**December 12, 2021**

**3rd Sunday of Advent**

**Prelude**

**Glen Haselbarth**

### **Welcome and Announcements**

1. Christmas Schedules:

Christmas Hymnal Devotion: Every Wednesday on Facebook and YouTube for Advent Season.

Christmas Cantata: December 19, during worship.

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service: December 24, 7:00 p.m.

2. Continue to join the sermon series for this Advent season, “The Journey: Walking the Road to Bethlehem.” This series helps us better understand the events that led up to the birth of Jesus in a stable in Bethlehem.

3. There will be an SPRC meeting following worship regarding hiring a custodian.

4. Last week we received offerings of \$7,050. Thank you for the offerings and prayers.

## Third Sunday in Advent: Joy

### Call to Worship

L: Rejoice in the Lord always, and again I say Rejoice!

**P: Our joy is in the Lord who blesses us.**

L: Shout for joy, for the Lord is near!

**P: Our praises ascend to God for the mighty things God has done.**

L: Let your praise dance and swirl in tribute to God!

**P: Surely God blesses and saves us. Hallelujah! Praise be to God. AMEN.**

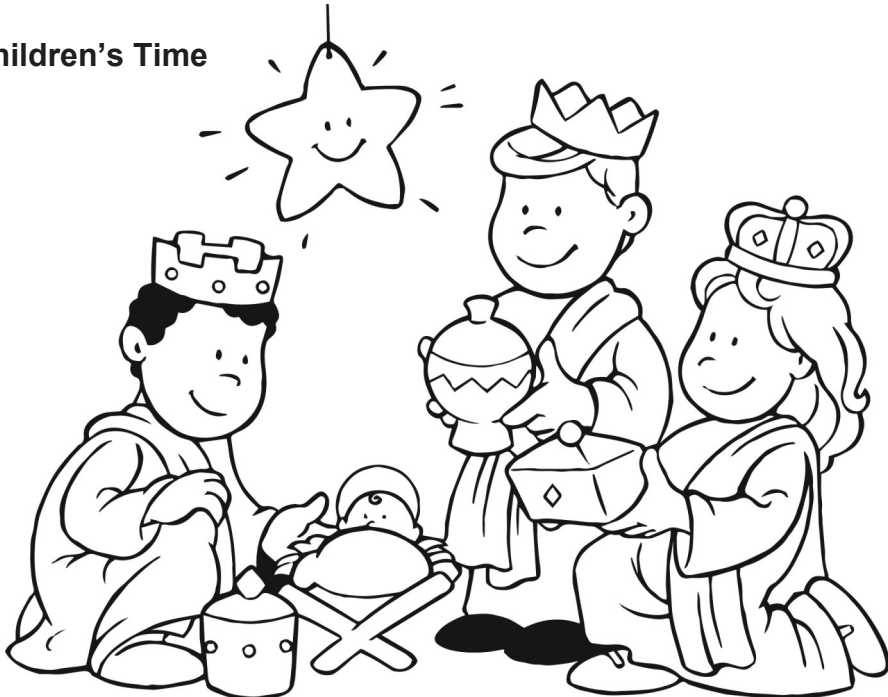
### Opening Prayer

Lord, we have come to this place from a world of demands and schedules. We have sought hope and peace and have found them here. Now we seek the inner joy that only your presence can bring to our lives. Open our hearts and our spirits to your love. For we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

### Silent Prayer

Opening Hymn "O Little Town of Bethlehem" UMH#230

### Children's Time



### Scriptures

**Luke 1:39-45 (NIV)**

### Mary Visits Elizabeth

At that time Mary got ready and hurried to a town in the hill country of Judea, where she entered Zechariah's home and greeted Elizabeth. When Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the baby leaped in her womb, and Elizabeth was filled with the Holy Spirit. In a loud voice she exclaimed: "Blessed are you among women, and blessed is the child you will bear! But why am I so favored, that the mother of my Lord should come to me? As soon as the sound of your greeting reached my ears, the baby in my womb leaped for joy. Blessed is she who has believed that the Lord would fulfill his promises to her!"

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

**P: Thanks be to God.**



**Message**  
**"Leaping for Joy!"**  
**by**  
**Pastor Peter Choi**

Hymn "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing" UMH#240

### Joys and Concerns

Prayer List: Phyllis Finkner, Gary Smidt, Janet & Daughter-Joyce Will's niece, Merlin Beahm, Fred Will, Jan Hofferber-Kathi Schutz's mother, and Larry Preston-Jeanette Wilkinson's brother.  
Happy Birthday to Lee Mills, Chad Fries, Jennifer Muller, Gaylen Hansen, Jonathan Johnson, Loree Johnson.  
Happy Anniversary to Fred & Joyce Will—44 years and Doug & Diana Hammer—39 years.