

Message “John the Baptist’s Ministry” Pastor Peter Choi

Hymn “Good Christian Friends, Rejoice” UMH#224

Joys and Concerns

Prayer List: Marge Madsen, Larry Anderson,
Lori Conyer’s Father, and Merlin Beahm.

Happy Birthday to Lee Mills, Chad Fries, Jennifer Muller,
Johathan Johnson, & Loree Johnson.

Happy Anniversary to Fred & Joyce Will—45 years!!

Pastoral Prayer—Lord’s Prayer

Offertory Music

“Doxology “We Give Thee But Thine Own”

Offertory Prayer

Generous God, you have given us all that we have and all that we are. We thank you for the opportunity to respond to your love and generosity by sharing our gifts with others. Our hearts sing with joy as we work with you to bring true peace and justice to our world. As we prepare for the coming of your Son, may our lives proclaim your good news for all throughout the earth. Amen.

Closing Hymn

UMH#196

“Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus”

Benediction

Let the love of God flow into your hearts. Believe in the power of God to change your life. Behold the goodness of God in creation and in others. Be at peace and celebrate God’s good news. AMEN.

Sending Forth

Postlude

Glen Haselbarth

2022 Vision:

Expand Our Boundaries Through the Word of God.

“Your word is a lamp for my feet,

a light on my path”

(Psalm 119:105)

United Methodist Church Minden, Nebraska

10:00 a.m.

December 11, 2022

3rd Sunday of Advent

Order of Worship

Prelude

Glen Haselbarth

Welcome and Announcements

1. Today is the third Sunday of Advent. With so much going on around us, it is important that we remain focused on the real meaning of Christmas. Continue to join the sermon series for this Advent season, “Prepare the Way for the Lord.” This series helps us better prepare for Jesus’ coming. And we listen to the people’s hearts in the Bible.
2. During worship on December 18, we are going to have a Christmas program. Please mark your calendars. We will also take a church group picture on December 18.
3. Wednesday there will be Children’s after school program at 3:30 pm and we will practice for the Christmas program. There will also be rehearsal at 9:00 am on December 18.
4. UMW meeting will be at 9:30 am this Wednesday, Dec 14. Pastor Peter will take a picture of the group at 9:30 am.
5. Christmas Eve Candlelight Service will be on December 24 at 7:00 pm. We invite all people to this special service.
6. The Bible study, *Threading the Bible: New Testament*, will begin in January 2023. If you want to take the class, please contact the church office.
7. We are going to start a confirmation class in February 2023. The class will be for 12 weeks. If your kids are interested in the class, please get in touch with the church office.
8. Last week we received offerings of \$5,857. Thank you for the offerings and prayers.

Lighting of the 3rd Advent Candle: Joy
“Like a Child” TFWS#2092 verse 3

Call to Worship

L: Today there is good news for us to behold!

P: Those who feared that they were worth little to God have found blessing in God’s sight.

L: For in the mercy and love of God, the blind shall see, the lame shall walk without pain, those who could not hear shall be blessed with hearing, and there shall be peace.

P: God’s mercy and love is poured out for our parched souls.

L: Behold! The Lord’s compassion is with God’s people.

P: Believe in the power of God in all things. AMEN.

Opening Prayer

Joyful Spirit who inhabits our praise, we glorify you today for all you have done, for all you are doing, and for all you promise to do. Wherever we find ourselves in the expanse between grief and joy, you meet us here, offering glimpses of life abundant. In this season of Advent, we remember the good news of great joy, promised to ancient peoples and promised to us today. Quicken our hearts and minds with the joyful anticipation of the birth of pure joy in Jesus Christ. Amen.

Silent Prayer of Confession

Opening Hymn “Hail to the Lord’s Anointed” UMH#203

Passing the Peace of Christ

Children’s Time



Scriptures

Luke 3:3-14

He went into all the country around the Jordan, preaching a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. As it is written in the book of the words of Isaiah the prophet:

“A voice of one calling in the wilderness,

‘Prepare the way for the Lord,
make straight paths for him.

Every valley shall be filled in,
every mountain and hill made low.

The crooked roads shall become straight,
the rough ways smooth.

And all people will see God’s salvation.”

John said to the crowds coming out to be baptized by him, “You brood of vipers! Who warned you to flee from the coming wrath? Produce fruit in keeping with repentance. And do not begin to say to yourselves, ‘We have Abraham as our father.’ For I tell you that out of these stones God can raise up children for Abraham. The ax is already at the root of the trees, and every tree that does not produce good fruit will be cut down and thrown into the fire.”

“What should we do then?” the crowd asked.

John answered, “Anyone who has two shirts should share with the one who has none, and anyone who has food should do the same.”

Even tax collectors came to be baptized. “Teacher,” they asked, “what should we do?”

“Don’t collect any more than you are required to,” he told them.

Then some soldiers asked him, “And what should we do?” He replied, “Don’t extort money and don’t accuse people falsely—be content with your pay.”

L: This is the Word of the Lord.

P: Thanks be to God.

Jane Craig