

# **Centennial Multicultural United Methodist Church**

**1503 Broadway, Rockford, Illinois 61104**

**Rev. Auderine Rochet, Pastor**

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**December 15, 2024**

# CENTENNIAL MULTICULTURAL UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

December 15, 2024 – 10:00am  
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - YEAR C

\*Please stand as you are able.

## GATHERING MUSIC:

Erica Kessler

As Lately We Watched  
*Austrian carol, plus HYFRYDOL by R.H. Pritchard*  
*arr. by Anna Laura Page*

## INTROIT:

Emmanuel

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

## CENTERING WORDS

Rejoice and be glad! God is at work while we wait and hope and pray for God's peace to come upon the earth.

## OPENING PRAYER (in Unison):

**God of love and joy, thank you for your presence in our lives. During this time of worship, draw us closer to you and to one another. May we grow in our love for you and for our neighbor. May we lay aside our worries, trusting that you hear what lies in our hearts. May we dwell in your peace and be guided by the one who is to come, your Son, Jesus Christ. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.**

## \*CALL TO WORSHIP:

Rejoice, for God is here!

**God is our strength and our light.**

Let us give thanks to God.

**We will sing praises for all the earth to hear!**

## \*OPENING HYMN:

Advent Song

TFWS 2090 Vs 3

## LIGHTING OF THE THIRD CANDLE IN ADVENT

We light these candles, the candle of joyous hope, of proclaimed peace, and of deep and everlasting joy, as a sign that we are those who walk with a skip in our step because we can see the destination, and it is pure joy. We are ascending to God's promise.

*(Light the three candles)*

The light glowing from our Advent wreath is burning brighter. This radiance warms our hearts and fills us with joy! The Lord has done great things for us. Let us rejoice.

## INVITATION TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in Unison):

**Merciful God, it can be hard to follow your ways. We want to hold on to what we have. We want to mind our own business and ignore the needs of others. We want to follow the ways of the world and not your ways. Remind us that you offer us forgiveness and bring healing and redemption into our lives. Help us turn to you once again, that we may receive the good news of your endless love and grace. Amen.**

*Moment of Silence*

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God hears our prayers and offers us forgiveness. In the name of Christ, you are forgiven. **Thanks be to God! Amen.**

### HYMN OF WORSHIP

Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

UMH 229

### JOYS AND CONCERNS

### PASTORAL PRAYER

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

And now, with the confidence of children of God, let us pray:

**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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.**

### INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

God has given us so much. May we, in turn, bear good fruit for God's world. In praise and thanksgiving, let us open our hearts and offer our gifts to God.

### OFFERTORY:

Manger Medley

Chimes Trio

Erica Kessler

Jan Rungren

Janie Kellermann

### \*DOXOLOGY:

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

### OFFERTORY PRAYER (in Unison):

**Abundant God, we give you thanks for these gifts. May you bless them and use them to feed the hungry, clothe the naked, and bring comfort to those in need. And may we offer our very selves as we proclaim your good news of love and grace for all people. Amen.**

## CHILDREN'S TIME

Dave Holland

*(As the children come to the altar, please sing stanza 1 of Hymn 191, "Jesus Loves Me")*

### \*GOSPEL LESSON:

Luke 2:15-20

***Hear the Word of God in the Gospel according to Luke the 2nd chapter, beginning with the 15th verse...***

**15** When the angels had left them and gone into heaven, the shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened, which the Lord has told us about." **16** So they hurried off and found Mary and Joseph, and the baby, who was lying in the manger. **17** When they had seen him, they spread the word concerning what had been told them about this child, **18** and all who heard it were amazed at what the shepherds said to them. **19** But Mary treasured up all these things and pondered them in her heart. **20** The shepherds returned, glorifying and praising God for all the things they had heard and seen, which were just as they had been told.

Leader: The Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ

**People: Praise be to you, Lord Christ**

### SERMON:

"The Joy of Advent"  
Rev. Audrey Rochet

### \*CLOSING HYMN:

What Child is This

UMH 219

### \*BENEDICTION:

Brothers and sisters, siblings in Christ, God is truly with us. Go forth, rejoicing that Christ shows us the way. Go in peace. Go in hope. Amen.

### GOING FORTH:

Erica Kessler

Sleigh Ride  
*by Leroy Anderson*  
*arr. uncredited*

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**Pastor:** Rev. Auderine Rochet

**Liturgists:** CMUMC ministers

**Worship Assistant:** Jose Gustavo Lopez Rodriguez

**Pianist:** Erica Kessler

**Bulletin:** Lora Doll

**Social Media:** Dulce Maciel

**Power Point:** Janie Kellermann

# Announcements

December 15, 2024

## **ADULT FAITH FORMATION:**

Wednesdays Bible Study:

- with Pastor Judith in English, 12pm. On ZOOM.

For information about the **Spanish Bible Study** day and time call Pastor Audrey at (630) 670-3580

**Good Samaritan Fund.** Our Good Samaritan Fund is low. Money in this fund is used to help church members with financial assistance for housing, food and medical bills. If you would like to donate to boost this fund, please put your check in the collection plate. Make sure you put Good Samaritan Fund on the memo line. Your consideration to contribute to this fund is very much appreciated.

If you are able, please consider donating to our Good Samaritan Fund this Christmas.

**Saturday Kids Club.** Every Saturday from 10:30am to 12:45 pm.

## **\*\*PRAYER LIST\*\***

**At W. Willows:** *Art Huenkemeier.*

**At Cherryvale Place:** *Carol Waxler.*

**At Home:** *Aida DeJesus.*

**Undergoing Treatment/Rehab:** *Ken Dahlgren, John Paul, Chuck & Kim Whitmore, Jennifer Martin, Pastor Judith, Milka Rivera, Connie Kim.*

## **BIRTHDAYS**

12/20 Abby Williams

12/15 Julie John

12/15 Debbie Kobishka

12/19 Robert Risenhoover

12/19 Pamela Bressler Smith

12/20 Benjamin Berry

## **Joys and Concerns**

We hope you will worship with us again.

You can call Pastor Audrey if you need any assistance, please contact her at 630.670.3580.

[Pastor.audrey@ymail.com](mailto:Pastor.audrey@ymail.com)



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