and called the church to be his servant for the reconciliation of the world.

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION Trusting in the steadfast love of the Lord, let us pray for the fulfillment of God's promises, saying: Emmanuel, come; O come and save us.

LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven... debts/debtors... and the glory, forever. Amen. PRAYER RESPONSE #92 While We Are Waiting, Come

INVITATION TO OFFERING

***DOXOLOGY #607** Praise God, from whom all blessings flow, Praise Christ, all people here below; Praise Holy Spirit evermore; Praise Triune God, whom we adore. Amen ***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** God Most High, receive the gifts of our lives as an offering of gratitude for your grace. Overshadow us with your Holy Spirit and let it be with us according to your word, for nothing is impossible with you. Amen.

*HYMN #79 ***BLESSING AND CHARGE** POSTLUDE

— Sending —

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Light Dawns on a Weary World Peace, Salaam, Shalom Worship Ensemble

MILL DCCC



Pastor
Music Director
Admin Assist.

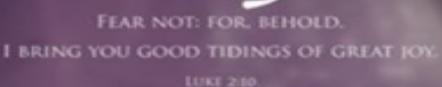
Serving God, Honoring Creation, **Embracing** Differences



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(*) Please rise in body or in spirit. **Bold italic letters** indicate congregational responses.

Service for the Lord's Day

Third Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021

PRELUDE **WELCOME**

— *Gathering* — Blackbird

Katie Hurst Liturgist: Jimmy Chapman

CANDLE LITANY - Katie & Briar Hurst and River Evers

"Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice." The world says, "Worry," and we say, "Rejoice." The news says, "Fear," and we say, "Rejoice." The world says, "Be happy," and the church says, "Be faithful." As we light our third Advent candle, *We pray for hope, peace, and joy.* Come now, O child of Mary. *Come now, O Prince of Joy.*

INTROIT

***OPENING SENTENCES**

When God is a Child

Worship Ensemble, soloist: Katie Hurst

Prepare the way of the Lord! Let us sing praises to the Lord, for God has done glorious things.

Let us shout aloud and sing for joy, for great in our midst is the Holy One of Israel. *Come, let us worship God.*

*PRAYER OF THE DAY *HYMN #144 In the Bleak Midwinter CONFESSION Trusting in God's salvation, faithfulness and merciful love, let us confess our sin and the sins of the world, as we lift our voices together. Merciful God,

we confess that, in the midst of your glorious creation, we have neglected our role in its care. We ignore the cries of the hurting and the lonely, those on the margins and those who are oppressed. We focus on our own desires, while forgetting the needs of our neighbors. We have not prepared a way for the Lord, through either our words or our deeds, neither through our actions nor our thoughts. Grant us your mercy in forgiveness; and lead us to act with compassion and justice, guided by your glorious light.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS Know that you are forgiven and be at peace. *Thanks be to God.*

- Word -

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION Zephaniah 3:14-20 **HEBREW SCRIPTURE** Bible p. 826-827, LG p. 1073-1074 A voice is crying in the wilderness: Listen to the word of the Lord. The word of the Lord. Thanks be to God. **2ND HEBREW SCRIPTURE** Bible p. 603, LG p. 785 Isaiah 12:2-6 This is the word of the Lord. Thanks be to God. **GOSPEL** Luke 3:7-18 Bible p. 56, LG p. 73 Hear the word of the Lord for us. Heaven and earth will pass away but the word of the Lord stands forever. Thanks be to God. Joy and Justice **SERMON** Rev. Michele Goff **ASCRIPTION OF PRAISE**

— Response —

HYMN #101No Wind at the WindowAFFIRMATION OF FAITHAdapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.19Out of Israel, God in due time raised up Jesus.His faith and obedience were the responseof the perfect child of God.He was the fulfillmentof God's promise to Israel,the beginning of the new creation,and the pioneer of the new humanity.He gave history its meaning and direction