

Yes! Let It Be

Third Sunday of Advent

December 17, 2017

PRELUDE

Karin Redekopp Edwards

GATHERING

Lighting the Advent Candles

Call to Worship

Carol Bohnert

Leader: Awake! The invitation to carry light comes from the God of restoration.

All: O God, you amaze us with your promise to build up the ancient ruins. You say you will replace the ashes of the past with garlands of beauty. Your bold vision dazzles our doubting souls.

Silence

Leader: Quiet our questions.

All: Lead us beyond our fears, and guide us on the path to peace.

Leader: Let it be whole.

Opening Prayer

PRAISING

Melissa Beitler, Songleader

Offering

Women's Ensemble

Angels From the Realms of Glory (arr. Forrest)

Rejoice, Rejoice, the Savior Comes
Sing We a Song of High Revolt

Purple #4
Purple #13

Children's Time

Evan Richards

HEARING THE WORD

Scripture Reading

Jim Beitler

Leader: Hear the Word of the Lord.

People: Our ears are open.

Isaiah 61: 1-4 (p. 603); Psalm 126 (p. 499)

Luke 1: 46b-55 (p. 831)

Leader: This is the Word of the Lord.

People: Thanks be to God.

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen
(arr. Shackley)

Men's Chorus

Sermon

Hillary Watson

Music for Meditation

Blessed Is the Lord (Benedictus) (Forrest)

Choir

Prayer of Confession

Words of Assurance

SHARING IN COMMUNITY

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Congregational Announcements

Jan Rheinheimer

SENDING

Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus

Benediction

Blue #178

This Week's Activities

Today

Nursery: Paul Reimer, Dave Kuhlmann
Taylor; Kristin Rauh, TBA

10:00 AM

11:15 AM

Adult Classes

11:30 AM

- *Peacemaker's Pilgrimage to the Holy Land: Shepherds' Field* (Sanctuary)
- *Ephesians: Building a Community in Christ* (Conference Room)

Tue

Lunch Bunch at Maxfields

12:00 PM

Announcements

- Please join us for a **Christmas Eve service next Sunday** at 6:30 PM. This service of song and Scripture will be followed by a dessert reception. We encourage you to bring a dessert to share; finger food desserts, such as cookies, bars, or fruit, are preferred. As in past years, children are invited to come in their pajamas.
- This week, there are **prayer stations in the sanctuary**. Prayer stations are guided interactive prayers for users to enjoy at their own pace. The MYF and Venture Club enjoyed these ones at their lock ins. They are open to the congregation during this stressful week before Christmas. Come and pray, rest, and reflect during office hours this week from 8:45 AM-4:00 PM, Tuesday through Friday (Dec 19-22).
- For next week's **Advent giving project**, please bring new or gently used gloves, men's long underwear, warm winter hats, heavy socks, warm sweaters, hooded sweatshirts, fleece pull-overs, and used all-weather parkas and coats.
- There will not be any **Sunday school classes** on December 24 or December 31. Enjoy the holiday break!
- The Pastoral Care Team would like to organize a **Marriage Enrichment Retreat**. The event would take place at LMC on a Friday evening and Saturday in April (either April 13-14 or April 20-21). The retreat would feature a speaker and would culminate with a catered dinner on Saturday evening. Childcare would be provided Friday evening at the church and supplemental funds would be available for at-home childcare on Saturday for those who need assistance. We would like to know if you and your spouse are interested in such an event and which date works best for you. Send an email or talk to Jan R., Laura L. or Wanda B. if you have questions or are interested in participating. If there is sufficient interest, we will plan the retreat. Thank you for your help.
- A **reminder for year-end giving**: checks must be delivered in person or postmarked to the church office by December 31 to count as 2017 donations.