



Nassau Presbyterian Church

December 13, 2020 11:00 AM

ADVENT III



Gathering

God calls us together to offer praise, acknowledge sin,
and celebrate our adoption as forgiven children.

Prelude

He Shall Feed His Flock

G. F. Handel

Call to Worship

based on Isaiah 61:1-3 (NRSV)

This is the season of holy waiting.

We wait for the One whose word can set captives free.

We watch for the day when all who mourn will know gladness and praise.

We wait while the dawning light appears on the horizon.

Come let us walk in the light of God!

Opening Hymn

Lift Up Your Heads

Red Hymnal 93

Prayer of Confession

God of all grace,

we confess that we are not ready to meet you.

**You send your Spirit to release us,
yet we remain captivated by sin.**

**You stand among us in Christ Jesus,
yet we claim we do not know you.**

Forgive us, God of grace.

Make us holy; make us whole.

**Keep us safe and sound until the day of your coming;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Assurance of Forgiveness

Isaiah 40:4-5 (NRSV)

Every valley is lifted up; every mountain, made low.

Now the glory of the Lord is revealed, for the mouth of the Lord has spoken.

Friends in Christ, hear and believe the good news of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. Thanks be to God.

Lighting of the Third Advent Candle

from Luke 1 (NRSV)

Response

While We Are Waiting, Come

Red Hymnal 92

Words of Welcome

Time with Children

Nothing Is Impossible

Luke 1: 37-40, 46-55 (NRSV)



Proclaiming the Word

We encounter the Word in speech and song
as we interpret and expound scripture.

Prayer for Illumination

**Holy God, our hope and strength,
by the power of your Spirit
prepare the way in our hearts
for the coming of your Word,
so that we may see the glorious signs
of your promise fulfilled;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

Scripture Lesson

John 1: 6-9, 19-28

NRSV

There was a man sent from God, whose name was John. He came as a witness to testify to the light, so that all might believe through him. He himself was not the light, but he came to testify to the light. The true light, which enlightens everyone, was coming into the world.

This is the testimony given by John when the Jews sent priests and Levites from Jerusalem to ask him, "Who are you?" He confessed and did not deny it, but confessed, "I am not the Messiah." And they asked him, "What then? Are you Elijah?" He said, "I am not." "Are you the prophet?" He answered, "No." Then they said to him, "Who are you? Let us have an answer for those who sent us. What do you say about yourself?" He said,

"I am the voice of one crying out in the wilderness,
'Make straight the way of the Lord,'" as the prophet Isaiah said.

Now they had been sent from the Pharisees. They asked him, "Why then are you baptizing if you are neither the Messiah, nor Elijah, nor the prophet?" John answered them, "I baptize with water. Among you stands one whom you do not know, the one who is coming after me; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandal." This took place in Bethany across the Jordan where John was baptizing.



Thanksgiving

We respond by presenting our offerings, setting the table,
lifting prayers, and praising the triune God.

Sermon Hymn

Awake! Awake and Greet the New Morn
verses 1, 3, 4

Red Hymnal 107

Affirmation of Faith

Matthew 1: 20b-22

**An angel of the Lord appeared to Joseph in a dream
and said, “Joseph, son of David,
do not be afraid to take Mary as your wife,
for the child conceived in her is from the Holy Spirit.
She will bear a son, and you are to name him Jesus,
for he will save his people from their sins.**

Moment for Mission

Offertory

E’en So, Lord Jesus, Quickly Come

music: Paul Manz
text: Revelation 22
adapt. Ruth Manz

Doxology

Red Hymnal 143
verse 4

**All creation, join in praising God the Father, Spirit, Son,
evermore your voices raising to th’eternal Three in One:
come and worship, come and worship,
worship Christ, the newborn king!**

Prayers of the People & The Lord’s Prayer



Sending

We follow the Word into the world, sent forth with
God’s blessing to lives of service and love.

Closing Hymn

Joy to the World
verses 1, 4

Red Hymnal 134

Benediction

Postlude

Noël Suisse

Louis-Claude Daquin

Tending the Flock

Death—Paul J. Hill, father of Mark and Dan Hill, died on November 23, 2020 in Newtown, Pennsylvania.

Preacher

David A. Davis

Liturgists

Len Scales

Andrew Scales

The Gregory Family

Time with Children

Corrie Berg

Musicians

Robert Lamb, bell tree

Members of the Adult Choir,

Noel Werner, director

Steven Updegraff, soloist

Michael Ryan, organist

Sound Engineer

Nick Mastalesz

Livestream Operators

Doug Ladendorf

Ian Lewano

Shana Lindsey-Morgan

Jeff Santoro

Cover Art

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