

# Westminster Presbyterian Church

2110 Sheridan Blvd. Lincoln, NE

## December 13, 2020

Third Sunday of Advent

Welcome

Rev. Chris Peters

Prelude

John Ross, organ

**Call to Worship** (*from Psalm 126:1-5*)

Deacon Sarah Baltensperger

One: When the Lord restored the fortunes of Zion,

**All: *We were like those who dream.***

One: Then our mouth was filled with laughter, and our tongue with shouts of joy!

**All: *The Lord has done great things for us, and we rejoiced.***

One: Restore our fortunes, O Lord, like the watercourses in the Negeb.

**All: *May those who sow in tears, reap with shouts of joy.***

**Advent Wreath Candle Lighting**

Tami Wellman and Diana Wild

**\*Hymn #93**

***Lift Up Your Heads, Ye Mighty Gates***

**Call to Confession**

**Silent Prayer of Confession**

**Unison Prayer of Confession**

***God of joy, with a sky full of stars and a world full of flowers, there should be no end to our joy. With grace and peace shared with us in Christ, there should be no limit to our praise. Yet, instead, we let joy slip away to be replaced by vengeful thoughts, a critical inner-voice, and said words that sting our loved ones. Restore us, O Lord. Show us the way of a joy that laughs, dances, and sings. When we find such joy, inspire us to share our joy with the world. In the name of Christ, we pray. Amen.***

**Response to the Confession**

**#88 O Come, O Come, Emmanuel v. 6**

***O come, thou Dayspring, come and cheer our spirits by thine advent here;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night, and death's dark shadow put to flight.  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel***

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

... Believe and share the good news!

***In Jesus Christ, we are a new creation!***

**\*Response of Praise**

**#121 O Little Town of Bethlehem v.4**

***O holy child of Bethlehem, descend to us we pray;  
Cast out our sin and enter in; be born in us today.  
We hear the Christmas angels the great glad tidings tell  
O Come to us, abide with us, our Lord Emmanuel.***

*\*You are invited to stand in body or spirit.*

**Children's Message**

Rev. Chris Peters

**Special Music**

**Prayer for Illumination**

**Scripture**

**Prophets** Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11

**Gospels** Luke 1:46-55

Holy Words to inspire our dreaming. ***Thanks be to God.***

**Sermon** "Those Who Dream... Sow Joy"

Rev. Chris Peters

**\*Hymn #100** ***My Soul Cries Out with a Joyful Shout (Canticle of the Turning)***

**Prayers of the People**

Deacon Sarah Baltensperger

The Lord be with you.

***And also with you.***

Lift up your hearts.

***We lift them to the Lord.***

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

***It is right to give our thanks and praise.***

**The Lord's Prayer**

***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 debts as we forgive our debtors, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.***

**Moment of Gratitude**

**\*Charge & Benediction**

**Postlude**

John Ross, organ

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