

*SONG OF PRAISE Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

107

*CALL TO CONFESSION

*ADMITTING OUR BROKENNESS

**Eternal God, we confess
that we resist your holy realm.
You deliver us from judgment
but we continue to judge one another.
You seek to restore our lives
but we fail to bear good fruit.
Forgive us, God of grace.
Baptize us with Spirit and fire
so that we may be ready to meet you
when you come again in glory;
through Jesus Christ our Lord.**

*DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

*THE PEACE

Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.
And also with you.

TIME WITH YOUNG DISCIPLES

*SONG OF RESPONSE

*He Came Down
He came down that we may have joy.
He came down that we may have joy.
He came down that we may have joy.
Hallelujah forevermore.
(sing twice)*

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING LITANY

Tamara and Dave Iske

On this third Sunday of Advent,
as we think about the coming of Jesus Christ,
we light the candle of Joy
**When Christ comes into our lives,
He brings the fullness of Joy.
He anoints our hearts with the oil of gladness. (Isaiah 61:3)**All the
When Jesus was born,
the angels said that His coming was
good news of great joy for all people. (Luke 2:10)
**Because Christ has come to us,
we can live every day in the joy of the Lord.
Praise to his name!**

*SONG OF RESPONSE

He Came Down

PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR UNDERSTANDING

SCRIPTURE READING

Zephaniah 3:14-20

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Page No. 767

Philippians 4:4-7

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Page No. 955

Luke 3:7-18

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Page No. 834

ANTHEM

Rejoice, I Say Rejoice!

MESSAGE

Choose Joy

Tracy L. Evans

*SONG OF FAITH

Comfort, Comfort Now My People

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*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**We believe that God has entrusted the church
with the message of reconciliation
in and through Jesus Christ.
We believe that the church is called
to be the salt of the earth
and the light of the world.
We believe that the church is called blessed
because it is a peacemaker.
We believe that the church is witness
both by word and by deed
to the new heaven and the new earth
in which righteousness dwells.**

Adapted from the Confession of Belhar

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

Response:...God, you are in our midst, **renew us in your love.**

The Lord's Prayer

Hymnal, p. 35

THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

God Rest Ye Merry, Gentlemen

Sharon Aaronson

KNOWN JOYS & CONCERNS

Those who seek healing

Gene Bergstresser
 Lola Carroll
 Sandy Clarke
 Paula Coffman
 Janice Crump
 Dave Iske
 Vince Leseney
 Jayelle Martin
 Devyn Upton
 Pam Ashley's husband (Pam is Karen Upton's boss)
 Cory Beck (John Beck's brother)
 Mary Jean Beck (John Beck's mother)
 Gail Bender (Jessica Forthman's mother)
 Carol Broderson (Karen Upton's cousin)
 Britany Clark (Daughter of Paul Upton's co-worker)
 Karen Doviak (Jona Thiessen's friend)
 Carol Gadd (Ann Forsyth's cousin)
 Lee Harlan (Jona Thiessen's uncle)
 Michael Hernandez (Jayelle Martin's second cousin, once removed)
 Clark Hollingsworth (son of John Beck's friend Charles Hollingsworth)
 Dan Loomis (friend of Bill & Betty Silman)
 Don Smith (Charlotte Lovett's uncle)
 Michelle (Charlotte's neighbor)
 Sharon & Gordon Waterous, family of Donna Vint & Harry Wright
 Paul Gallagher (Karen Upton's father)
 Tod Luttrell (friend of Doris Hinson)

Andrew Megehee
 Savannah Moseley (daughter of Ann Forsyth's cousin)
 Kathy Ellison Vanderburg (former classmate of Jona Thiessen)
 Keith Vermillion (PE teacher at Jessica Farris' school)
 Jim & Linda Eckel

Those who grieve

Family of Les & Phyllis Johnston
 Andre Eyabi & Family
 Family of Jane Garlett (Joe Garlett's sister-in-law)
 Family of Michael Johnson (son of Charles & Jan Johnson and husband of Diana Johnson)
 Family & friends of Sheri Aresco (friend of Rachel Bradley)
 Family & friends of Kenny Comer

Birthdays

Dec. 13-Allen Silman
 Dec. 13-David Cole
 Dec. 15-Kenny Martin
 Dec. 17-Ruby Marsh

Anniversaries

Dec. 13-Kirk & Jessica Forthman

As part of the **ecumenical prayer cycle**, we ask you to pray for a particular region of the world each week: **Cape Verde, The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Senegal**. Give thanks for: Community and religious organizations that work together to improve food security in rural households, to educate and end illiteracy, to support refugees from neighbouring countries, and to provide care for people living with HIV and AIDS. Christians in these predominantly Muslim countries who continue to witness to their faith and live their lives in accordance with the gospel. Rural populations, subsistence farmers and livestock herders who endure the season of want that precedes the harvest every year. Still dancers in Guinea, Benin, **Côte d'Ivoire, Togo**

Please inform the church office of any necessary additions or changes to this prayer list.

We invite anyone who wishes to consider membership in this church to contact the pastor or a member of the session. You may also indicate interest in membership by checking the appropriate column in the ritual of friendship booklet. Membership in this church is a step made by profession of faith, reaffirmation of faith or transfer of church letter.

Lectionary Readings for December 20: Micah 5:2-5a; Luke 1:46b-55 or Psalms 80:1-7; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45(46-55).

The **Urban Mission** item of the month for December is rice. Please place your donations in the box by the church information table.

Hearing-assistance devices and **large print hymnals** are available from the ushers.

Ushers for today's service are Karen and Kierstyn Upton.

We will gather for a **Christmas Social on Sunday, December 20th**. It will be a potluck meal, we will sing Christmas carols, and there will be a pageant (though a new kind of pageant!) Join Us!

SUNDAY

9:30 A.M. – Sunday School
 10:30 A.M. – Fellowship and Refreshments
 10:55 A.M. – Worship Service

December 13

TUESDAY

7:00 P.M. – Session Meeting

December 15

WEDNESDAY

3:15 P.M. – Kids' Club
 5:00 P.M. – Children's Choir
 6:30 P.M. – Chancel Choir

December 16

THURSDAY

10:30 A.M. – Bible Study in Library

December 17

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