

**The Order
Of
Divine Worship**

+++

Third Sunday of Advent

December 11, 2011

10:30 A.M.

PRELUDE (Please register your attendance.)

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

* THE HYMN No. 218 (UMH stanzas 1-2)
"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"

* THE ACT OF PRAYER

A voice cries in the wilderness,
and we find ourselves drawn to the message.

**God invades the commonplace,
and we cannot evade the changes God brings.**

On every hand our values are challenged
as attention is drawn to the lowly and weak.

**We are not worthy to untie the sandals
of the Humble Servant, who loved all people.**

Draw near to join those who rejoice
in a God who comforts and confronts.

**We come to proclaim the worth of God,
and to claim the worth God invests in us.**

* THE HYMN No. 218 (UMH stanzas 3-4)
"It Came upon the Midnight Clear"

Let us be seated for prayer

OPENING PRAYER

Bring us the good news we need, O God of All Holiness, for our spirits are faint within us. In our weariness we seek comfort, salvation, and liberation, for ourselves and for all your children. Be among us, revealing again more than we are ready to hear or see. Attune us to that which we avoid, and help us to view aright your saving activity. In Jesus' name. Amen

LIGHTING THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

(Please see yellow insert) Carmen Adams & Luella Glesner

THE SCRIPTURE READING St. John 12:35-46

SPECIAL MUSIC Trio & Roger
"What Child is This"

GREETING

(Please place your prayer cards in the baskets at this time.)

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE REFRAIN "Jesus, We Are Here" No. 2273 (FWS)

- + Personal prayers
- + Prayers for others
- + 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against
us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from
evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the
glory forever. Amen.**

THE REFRAIN No. 334 (UMH)
"Sweet, Sweet Spirit"

THE MESSAGE The Rev. Anthony N. Cutting
"Jesus The Light"

THE HYMN No. 229 (UMH)
"Infant Holy, Infant Lowly"

THE PRAYER

GIVING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

* THE DOXOLOGY No. 94 (UMH)

* THE HYMN No. 240 (UMH)
"Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

* THE BENEDICTION

SERVING THE LORD

Liturgist: Sue Thumma
Ushers: Earl Crawford, Leonard McJames,
Ron Vandenberg, Don Decker
Greeters: Mitch & Ronda Bowen
Counters: Bob & Sharon Raymond, Curt & Beth Moe
Trustee for Dec.: Bob Raymond (back-up Carol Becks)
Coffee Hour Dec. 11: Phyllis, Vicki, Luella
Sunday School Teachers: George Farner, Ruth Sutton

BIRTHDAYS & ANNIVERSARIES

Dec. 12 Jim & Elaine Patterson 47 years
Dec. 11 Jay Chapin
Dec. 12 Janet Biggs, Ben McNett
Dec. 16 Shannon Glinski



*Altar flowers are given by the
Worship Committee
To the Glory of our Living God*

Sanford United Methodist Church

Our Staff

The Rev. Dr. Anthony N. Cutting: pastor@sanfordumc.org
Ruth Ann Wrona: secretary@sanfordumc.org
Lois McJames: Organist
Pam Brink: Music Director
Ronda Bowen: Treasurer
Kami Wade: Custodian
Meredith Abbe: Nursery

The Scripture Reading

St. John 12:35-46

35. Jesus said to them, "The light is with you for a little longer. Walk while you have the light, so that the darkness may not overtake you. If you walk in the darkness, you do not know where you are going.
36. While you have the light, believe in the light, so that you may become children of light." After Jesus had said this, he departed and hid from them.
37. Although he had performed so many signs in their presence, they did not believe in him.
38. This was to fulfill the word spoken by the prophet Isaiah: "Lord, who has believed our message, and to whom has the arm of the Lord been revealed?"
39. And so they could not believe, because Isaiah also said,
40. "He has blinded their eyes and hardened their heart, so that they might not look with their eyes, and understand with their heart and turn—and I would heal them."
41. Isaiah said this because he saw his glory and spoke about him.
42. Nevertheless many, even of the authorities, believed in him. But because of the Pharisees they did not confess it, for fear that they would be put out of the synagogue;
43. for they loved human glory more than the glory that comes from God.
44. Then Jesus cried aloud: "Whoever believes in me believes not in me but in him who sent me.
45. And whoever sees me sees him who sent me.
46. I have come as light into the world, so that everyone who believes in me should not remain in the darkness.

NOTES FROM THE MESSAGE



3rd Sunday of Advent

THE HYMN

No. 211 (stanza 1)

"O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"

THE RESPONSIVE READING

O EMMANUEL, our King and Lawgiver, the Expected of the nations and their Savior:

Come, and save us, O Lord, our God.

O WISDOM, who came forth from the mouth of the Most High, reaching from end to end, and ordering all things mightily and sweetly:

Come, and with your outstretched arm redeem us.

O ROOT OF JESSE, who stands for an ensign of the people, before whom kings shall keep silence and to whom the Gentiles shall make their supplication:

Come, and deliver us and tarry not.

O KEY OF DAVID and Scepter of the house of Israel, who opens and no one shuts, who shuts and no one opens:

Come and bring forth from prison the captive who sits in darkness and in the shadow of death.

O DAYSPRING, Brightness of the light eternal and Sun of justice:

Come, and enlighten those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of death.

LIGHTING THE THIRD ADVENT CANDLE

THE HYMN

No. 2090 (FWS stanza 3)

"Light the Advent Candle"