

3rd Sunday of Advent

December 12, 2021 @ 10:00 am

Church of The Cross

475 West Higgins Road Hoffman Estates, IL 60169 (847) 885-1199

Welcome all ~ Share God's Love ~ Offer Hope ... all in Jesus' name!

WELCOME ALL

PRELUDE "Largo" by C.F. Handel Robert K.

WORDS OF WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT "Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee" Beethoven

*CALL TO WORSHIP¹ Pastor Julie

Prepare the way of the Lord!

Let us sing praises to the Lord, for God has done glorious things.

Let us shout aloud and sing for joy,

for great in our midst is the Holy One of Israel.

Come, let us worship God.

*OPENING HYMN

"Wild and Lone the Prophet's Voice"

GTG #163

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE¹

De La Cruz Family

We light these candles of Hope, Peace, and Joy as signs of the coming light of Christ, joining our voices with the joyful song of his mother Mary.

~Lighting the Candles~

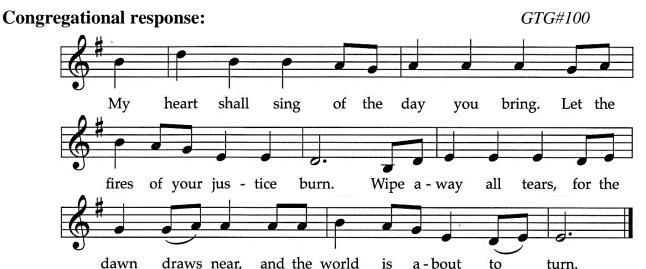
My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord;

my spirit rejoices in God my Savior.

For you, O Lord, have looked with favor on your lowly servant. From this day all generations will call me blessed: you, the Almighty, have done great things for me and holy is your name.

You have mercy on those who fear you, from generation to generation.

You have shown strength with your arm, and scattered the proud in their conceit, casting down the mighty from their thrones and lifting up the lowly.



My soul proclaims the greatness of the Lord; my spirit rejoices in God my Savior. Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION

Judie T.

Unison Prayer of Confession¹

Merciful God, we confess that, in the midst of your glorious creation, we have neglected our role in its care. We ignore the cries of the hurting and the lonely, those on the margins and those who are oppressed. We focus on our own desires, while forgetting the needs of our neighbors. We have not prepared a way for the Lord, through either our words or our deeds, neither through our actions nor our thoughts. Grant us your mercy in forgiveness; and lead us to act with compassion and justice, guided by your glorious light.

OUR SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS

*RESPONSE OF JOY GTG #107, v3

In darkest night his coming shall be, when all the world is despairing, as morning light so quiet and free, so warm and gentle and caring. Then shall the mute break forth in song, the lame shall leap in wonder, the weak be raised above the strong, and weapons be broken asunder.

SHARE GOD'S LOVE

PASSING THE PEACE

"Jesus Loves Me"

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

Zephaniah 3:14-20

Judie T.

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SECOND SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 3:7-18

This is the word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

SERMON

"Advent Questions"

Rev. Julie Peterson

OFFER HOPE ... IN JESUS' NAME

* HYMN "O Sing to the Lord' GTG #637

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

Adapted from the Confession of 1967, 9.19

Judie T.

Out of Israel, God in due time raised up Jesus. His faith and obedience were the response of the perfect child of God. He was the fulfillment of God's promise to Israel, the beginning of the new creation, and the pioneer of the new humanity. He gave history its meaning and direction and called the church to be his servant for the reconciliation of the world.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

PRESENTING OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS TO GOD

CHORAL OFFERING "Advent Grace" Arr. Lloyd Larson Violin ~ Mai El Moughayar

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Judie T.

*CLOSING HYMN "You Shall Go Out with Joy!" (sing 2x) GTG #80

*BENEDICTION

*CHORAL BENEDICTION "Advent Grace - Reprise" Arr. Liebergen

POSTLUDE "Triumphal March" by Theodore Dubois Robert K.

¹Call to Worship 55.1, © 2021 Office of Theology and Worship Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), pg24 ²Office of Theology and Worship, Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.) *This set of readings for the lighting of the Advent candles is based on the Magnificat, or Song of Mary, in Luke 1:46-55; this setting of the text is from the Book of Common Worship (575).*





Linda A (sister of Judy M)

Steve A (father-in-law of Glenna's daughter)

Connie & Ed (friends of Karen)

Beth B (Stu R's sister)

Kevin B (Joe L's co-worker/friend)

Mildred B

Mary Ann B

Susan B

Sushma B

Andree C

Connie (Karen F's friend)

Chuck C (Laura D's brother)

Patrick C (Stu/Marie's son-in-law)

Renee C (Laura's sister-in-law)

Jim C (Mary Ann's son-in-law)

Tom C (Ann M's brother-in-law)

Sabina C (Adelaide's sister-in-law)

Betty D (Marie R's cousin)

Cecily (Laura D)

Linda D (Jim/ Sue's relative)

Betty F (Chris L's mother)

Abby F (Chris/Mike's granddaughter)

Donna F (Jim/Sue's aunt)

Karen F

Adelaide G

Bruce & Linda G (friends of Stu/Marie)

Nick G (Stu/Marie's grandson)

Rita H (Jim/Ann's relative)

Jack H (friend of Mike/Chris L)

James & Sandra (friends of John/Cheryl)

Jessica (Charlie/Nancy's niece)

Jim I (Terri H)

Charlie K

José K (Adelaide's friend)

Chris L

Pam L

Phyllis L

Luca (Ann S's grandson)

Crisann M (friend of Mike/Chris L)

Judy M

Klee M (Fritz/Fay's son)

Kofi M (Adelaide's family friend)

Lisa M (Karen's daughter)

Steve M

George R

Tom R (Sue Li.'s brother)

Ann & Geoff S

Larry V (Jim V's father)

Carter W (Dave W's grandson)

Caregivers

People devastated by terrorism

Our world and all affected by COVID-19

Those who grieve

- Ralph T (Jim/Sue's friend)
- Virgil Abloh (Adelaide's nephew)



Flower Arrangement Dedications this week:

- In memory of Lois Baker from John and Marilyn Baker
- In celebration of a beautiful life and wonderful memories of a great Mom, Grandma and Great Grandma...Joan Lemke Nigh Rogers. It has been two years since your passing, and it seems like yesterday... not a day goes that we don't think of you. Mom, we miss you terribly, but know you are safe, healthy and with our Lord. Thank you for watching over us and being our guardian angel. In remembrance and love, from her children Scott (Robin) Nigh, Cathlynn (Ray Biondo) Nigh, Todd (Lynn Elliott) Nigh and her grandchildren Dylan (Sophie) Nigh, Jacob Nigh, Will Nigh and her great grandchildren Zoey and Amelia Nigh.

Everyone is invited to an Intergenerational



Sunday, December 19, 2021 Immediately after church in the lounge

Light lunch and treats will be provided

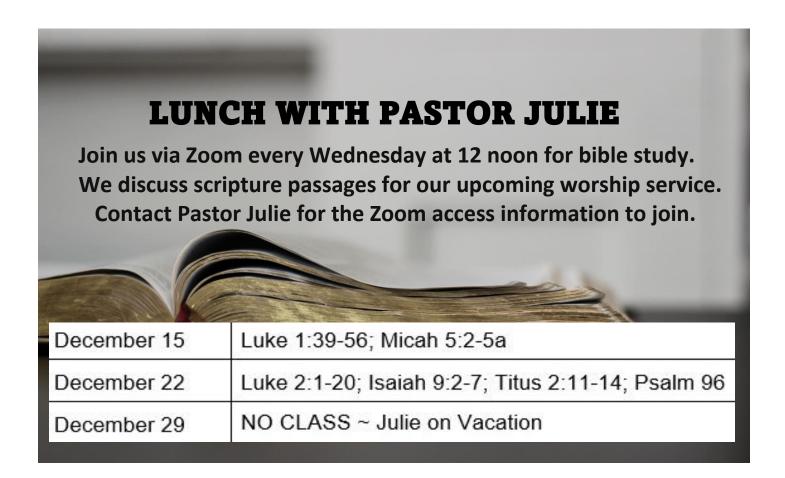
Activity: Making Christmas Cards for shut ins

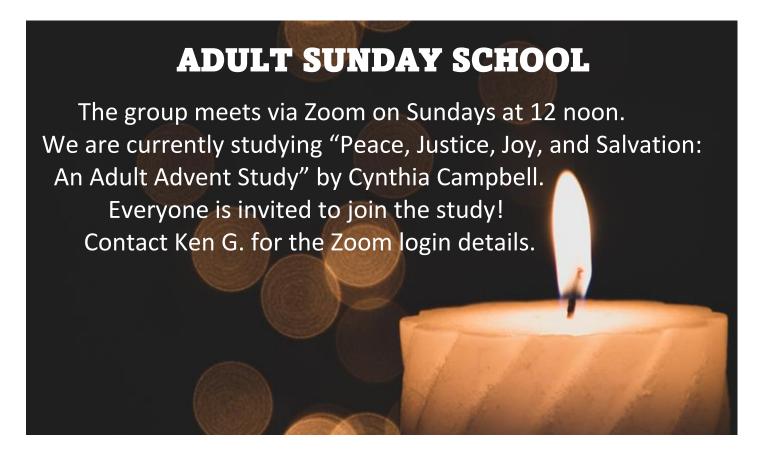
All supplies will be provided

COTC Learning Team hopes to see you all there for food, fun and fellowship!

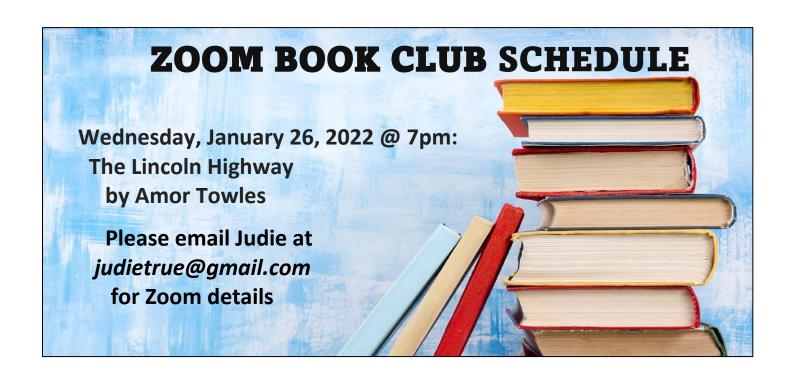












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Deacon Moderator ~ Judie Truelsen

Office Manager ~ Vanessa Brand Office phone ~ 847-885-1199 Email ~ office@cotc-pcusa.org

Choir Director ~ Marie Rutter

Organist ~ Dr. Robert Kania

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SACCION	
Session	

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Sue Liautaud Stu Rutter Cheryl Wilkins Pat Groenewold, Clerk Elders, Class of 2022

Jane Lesch Jim Vakoc Elders, Class of 2023

James Buchholz Laura De La Cruz Cathy Walker

Deacons

Deacons, Class of 2021

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Susan Buchholz Chris Lorentz Deacons, Class of 2023

Erica De La Cruz Naana Grant-Acquah Fay Michaelis

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