

MAPLE STREET CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

Third Sunday of Advent · Sacred Space · December 11, 2022

*The pregnancy of Mary is connected to the promise of justice and joy
in the Advent story.*



*How do the spaces I inhabit - at home, work, and in community - reflect
God's justice and joy? What am I being called to create in order to further
goodness in the world?*

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WELCOME

Rev. Pam Cochrane

PRELUDE

High in the Starry Heaven
Jon Gaines, pianist

Stanley Gaines

REFLECTING THE SACRED

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

**Living God, upon this moment, upon this people, upon this place,
the holy comes. And sacred knowing, brings sacred being for
sacred doing of God's plan.**

LIGHTING THE CANDLE OF JOY (responsive)

One: We pray for Joy this day.

All: We pray for Joy this day.

One: We open to see the Sacred reflected in all things.

All: We open to see the Sacred reflected in all things.

One: We open to see each moment

All: We open to see each moment

One: As a gift of holy presence

All: As a gift of holy presence

One: This is the gift of the Christ Mystery

All: This is the gift of the Christ Mystery, lighting the way to Joy.

One: Living God, Christ Mystery, Spirit of Joy,

We give thanks for this holy moment together.

As we take in the Joy you offer, may we be a reflection of your light,
expanding the sacred time of "right now"

into the sacred time of "always and for all time."

***SUNG RESPONSE**

When God Is a Child

Words: Brian Wren

Joy is a song that welcomes the dawn,

Telling the world that the Savior is born.

CHORUS: When God is a child, there's joy in our song.

The last shall be first, and the weak shall be strong,

And none shall be afraid.

***HYMN**

Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates

Black No. 117

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

Rev. Pam Cochrane

Children & youth are invited to the social hall for Advent activities.

SCRIPTURE READINGS: Isaiah 35:1-10; Luke 1:46-55

Marj Simpson
Pew Bible pgs. 615; 888

**Please stand as you are able*

ANTHEM

Born in the Night, Mary's Child

Geoffery Ainger
arr. Peter Amidon

MESSAGE

"Finding Joy in Yes!"

Rev. Douglas Vooyo

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

***LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)**

**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. 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.**

OFFERING

*Thank you for all the ways you give to the ministry of Maple Street Church. Your gifts,
whether offered weekly, monthly, by pledge or online, make a difference in the life of the
church. Collection boxes are located at both entrances to the sanctuary, on the church office door,
and the church mailbox outside the Chapel.*

OFFERTORY

Jesus, What a Wonderful Child
Intergenerational Choir

Rollo Dilworth

Please join in singing the chorus:

**Jesus, Jesus, oh, what a wonderful Child. Jesus, Jesus, so holy, meek and mild.
New life, new hope, to all He brings; Listen to the angels sing,
"Glory, glory, glory to the newborn King!"**

***DOXOLOGY**

Lyrics: Thomas Ken, Tune: Red No.64

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below; Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God the source of all our gifts!
Praise Jesus Christ whose pow'r uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

***HYMN**

Awake, Awake and Greet the New Morn

Marty Haugen

1. Awake! Awake to greet the new morn, for angels herald its dawning,
Sing out your joy, for soon he is born, behold! The Child of our longing.
Come as a baby, weak and poor, to bring all hearts together,
He opens wide the heav'nly door and lives now inside us forever.
2. In deepest 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 silent join in song, the tired shall leap in wonder,
The weak be raised above the strong, and weapons be broken asunder.

(continued on back)

3. Rejoice, rejoice, take heart in the night, though dark the winter and cheerless,
The rising sun shall crown you with light, be strong and loving and fearless;
Love be our song and love our prayer, and love, our endless story,
May God fill ev'ry day we share, and bring us at last into glory.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

He Came on the Wings of the Angel Song
Jon Gaines, pianist

Stanley Gaines

*The altar flowers this Sunday are given in loving memory of
Donald Wheeler
Given by his wife Arlene Wheeler and Family*

*The chancel flowers are given in loving memory of
my husband Lorne Hersey
Given by Jean Hersey and Family*

Sunday's Servants:

Scripture Reader: Marj Simpson
Ushers: Alden & Lynne Duffill and Pat Newman



Welcome! If you are here for the first time, please fill out a connection card and place it in the offering boxes. We share God's love, hope, and healing and serve our neighbors. No matter who you are or where you are on your faith journey, you are welcome here!

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