

Matawan United Methodist Church

478 Atlantic Ave. Aberdeen NJ 07747 732-566-2996 matawanumc.org

Pastor: Nicholas J. Connolly 609-501-2278 njconnolly7@gmail.com

Music Director: Michael Pinnella. Projectionist: Michele Veith

Praise Team: Tiffany Anastasatos - Beverly Karlovich - Lisa Riccardi

Liturgist: Jim Prusarczyk

December 15, 2024

The Third Sunday in Advent

You're invited to write your prayer requests on the card inside the bulletin. These will be collected by the ushers after the sermon. If you wish, include your name.

Gathering and Songs of Praise

"Mighty to Save" - "A Greater Song"

"Shout to the Lord"

10:00 Lighting the Advent Wreath: Candle of Joy

Opening Hymn: "Star-Child" 2095

***Opening Prayer (Also Projected)**

God of hope, you call us home from the exile of selfish oppression to the freedom of justice, the balm of healing, and the joy of sharing. Make us strong to join you in your holy work, as friends of strangers and victims, companions of those whom others shun, and as the happiness of those whose hearts are broken. We make our prayer through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen. *Prayers from the Lectionary*

***Prayer of Confession**

***Sharing the Peace: "The Family of God"**

Proclamation and Response

The Hebrew Scriptures: Zephaniah 3:14-20

Praise: "First Song of Isaiah"

Children's Message: "The Joy of Christmas"

Glory Be to the Father

The New Testament: Philippians 4:4-7

The Sermon: "Prophecy and Joy"

Musical Interlude: Collecting Prayer Request Cards

Pastoral Prayer

Offertory: "Away in a Manger" 217

***Doxology: Offering Prayer**

***The Prayer of Thanksgiving / The Lord's Prayer**

***Closing Hymn: "It Came upon the Midnight Clear"**

218 vv. 1, 3, 4

***Blessing / Response: "Emmanuel, Emmanuel" 204**

Advent Bible Study

Wednesday, December 18

7 PM Pastor's Office

Thrift Store: Tues. 6 pm-8 pm; Thur 10 am-2 pm; Sat 10 am-2pm

Food Pantry 2nd and 4th Tues 6:30 pm-7:30 pm; Thu 10 am-11:30 am